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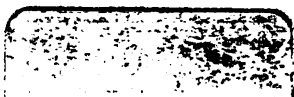
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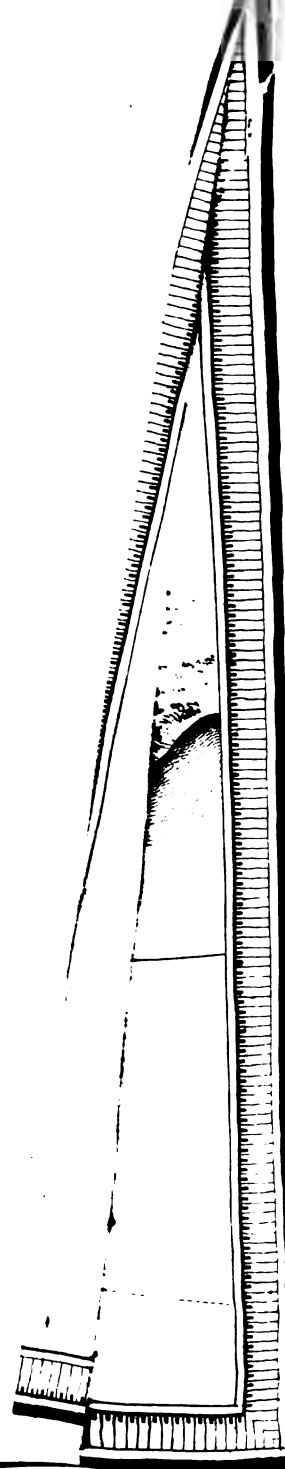
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A

JOURNAL OF THE FORCES

WHICH SAILED FROM THE DOWNS, IN APRIL 1800,
On a SECRET EXPEDITION under the Command of LIEUT. GEN. PIGOT,
Ambr
TILL THEIR ARRIVAL IN MINORCA;

AND CONTINUED THROUGH
ALL THE SUBSEQUENT TRANSACTIONS OF THE ARMY
UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE
RIGHT HON. GENERAL SIR RALPH ABERCROMBY, K. B.
IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN AND EGYPT;

AND THE LATTER OPERATIONS UNDER THE COMMAND OF
LIEUTENANT-GENERAL LORD HUTCHINSON, K. B.
TO THE SURRENDER OF ALEXANDRIA:

WITH
A PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF MALTA,
DURING THE TIME IT WAS SUBJECT TO
THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

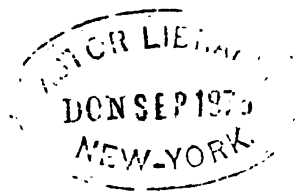
By **ÆNEAS ANDERSON**, Lieut. 40th Reg.

ILLUSTRATED BY ENGRAVINGS.

LONDON,

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1802.



TO
THE RIGHT HON.
EARL CRAVEN, &c.

MY LORD,

I BEG leave to make my sincere acknowledgments to your Lordship for the honour of being permitted to dedicate a Work to you, in some of whose pages your name appears with that distinction which it so well deserves.

This Volume will, I trust, be found to contain an authentic history of events, which redound, in a pre-eminent degree, to our Country's glory; though I fear its language and expressions will be found inadequate to the merit of those distinguished Characters, whose military talents and persevering courage produced them.

I leave the Soldier to the enjoyment of his Laurels, that he has so nobly won, and to the praise of his Country, which so amply bestows it. But I cannot pass on, without pointing out, in a particular manner, to the public admiration and applause, the Nobleman, who, from a love of his Country, leaves behind him all the ease, enjoyments and luxuries, which wealth can purchase, and high rank can command, to encounter the dangers; and submit, with cheerfulness, to the toils of a Soldier's life.

All who were engaged in the same service with your Lordship, can bear testimony to your active spirit on every occasion, to your attention in every branch of your duty, to your willing submission to those privations which your fellow-soldiers suffered, and your readiness to afford them a share in those comforts which you might occasionally be enabled to command.

But while I perform this faint act of justice to your public virtues, I cannot forego the gratification of representing myself as the object of your Lordship's regard and protection. From the blended sense of public merit

DEDICATION.

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and private favour, I have inscribed this Work to your Lordship; and I flatter myself that you will exercise your accustomed goodness to me, by considering it as a tribute of that respect and gratitude with which I have the honour of being,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obliged,

and devoted humble Servant,

ÆNEAS ANDERSON.

London, Oct. 27, 1802.

INTRODUCTION.

THIS Volume contains the history of military transactions written by a military man, and in that character he presents it to the public attention.

The general agitation which had been occasioned throughout the country by the expedition to Holland, had not altogether subsided, when the renewal of very formidable preparations excited the anxious curiosity of the people, more especially as their objects were enveloped in successful mystery from the country, for whose service the expedition was formed, and from Europe, against some part of which it was directed. That it did not perform any great military service, must have arisen from circumstances which were not foreseen, and could not be controuled. It had, however, no inconsiderable influence on the operations of the enemy in Italy, as it spread alarm along the coast which they possessed, and large bodies of troops were detached to prevent or oppose its descent. Thus a considerable diversion was made in favour of our Allies, though we cannot but lament that it did not terminate more to their advantage.

INTRODUCTION.

This Expedition, however, though not distinguished by any brilliant event, is an interesting feature in the war, and is preparatory to the Egyptian Campaign, which closes the glory of it. I have, therefore, given a regular journal of its transactions, from the sailing of the first division, under the command of Major-General Pigot, from England, till the arrival of the army at Malta ; with the whole of the General Orders that were issued by the several Commanders during that period. This account will sufficiently prove, that, if this army did nothing in the way of effective operation, it was, at all events, qualified, prepared, and eager to do every thing. What its dispositions and active capacities were, a considerable part of it proved on the sands of Egypt : nor can there be any doubt that the same prowess would have been displayed, and the same success obtained, if circumstances had afforded them the expected opportunities of unfurling the British standard on the plains of Italy or the shores of Spain.

As a part of this army took possession of Malta, on its surrender by the French ; and as the battalion of the 40th regiment, in which I had the honour to serve, formed a part of its garrison, I have availed myself of the local knowledge I acquired, to give some account of this extraordinary place.

Till the present war, Malta had long remained an object of small consideration. The singularity of its constitution and government,

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the riches of its knights, its stupendous strength, its splendid display of useless fortification, and the romantic character of its history, had rendered it rather a subject of philosophical speculation than political interest, and, though in the possession of any of the principal European Powers, it might have been made a commanding position in the Mediterranean Sea ; from the jealousy of them all, it has been left to the influence of its own policy, and remained in the security of its own insignificance.

At length the ambitious spirit of the French government, quickened and realised by the ardent genius of Bonaparte, by art, by menace, and by treachery, obtained possession of this Island ; of which it kept a troubled and precarious possession, till it was surrendered to the English force that had been employed to blockade it. As it thus formed a part of the British empire, it naturally became interesting to the British people ; and, from subsequent circumstances, has been a subject of very serious consideration : I have, therefore, given such an account of it, as my experience and means of information enabled me, and which will, I flatter myself, be sufficient to convey adequate and correct notions of its strength, its resources, commercial advantages, and political importance.

The plan of its harbours and fortified cities is a correct copy of that which was taken by the French General Vaubois, by order of Bonaparte, and is, I presume, the most correct that has, at any

b 2

time,

INTRODUCTION.

time, been communicated to the public. Of the plates which accompany it, I shall only say, that they contain correct portraits of the different parts of Malta, which they are intended to represent: and, as this Island has not been a common object of curiosity to travellers, they may be considered as valuable illustrations of the written description, and enable the reader to form very correct ideas of its curious circumstances and singular appearance.

Here, indeed, it was my original intention to have concluded my Work; but as the expedition with which I sailed from England formed a part of that army which preceded, with subsequent augmentations, under the command of Sir Ralph Abercromby for Egypt, and the second battalion of the regiment to which I belonged having formed a part of it, I felt myself in some degree connected with the Egyptian service, though I had not the honour of being personally engaged in it. At the same time, being favoured with the Journals of several Officers who witnessed the whole of that Campaign, and having opportunities of obtaining whatever was to be procured on the subject from oral communication, I have ventured to continue the Work in the original form which I had adopted, to the surrender of Alexandria.

The Campaign of Egypt, though one continued scene of British glory, was a succession of simple operations; and consequently requires nothing more than the attention which will, I trust, appear

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to have been bestowed, to produce a correct and authentic narrative of them.

From the sailing of the expedition from Malta, under Sir Ralph Abercromby, during the time it remained in Marmorice Bay, and to the final evacuation of Egypt by the French, an almost daily account is given of the proceedings of the British army; not only in its principal positions, as at Aboukir, Alexandria, and Cairo, but in its detached services, and all its intermediate operations.

Were I at liberty to mention those Officers who have with the most unreserved kindness communicated their papers and observations to me, I should derive an advantage from their names, which I cannot presume to expect from my own.

Among these communications I am indebted for the plan of Marmorice Bay, which is the only one, I believe, that has yet been published. It is a curious geographical document; and I can speak with confidence of its accuracy, as it was taken by a naval officer who is well known to be eminently qualified for every duty of his profession.

To execute my subject in the manner it deserves, is not within the reach of such abilities as mine. Accuracy and faithful narrative
is

is all I profess; and I shall not, I trust, be found to fail in my profession.

The bravery, discipline, and persevering activity of the British army in Egypt; the zealous, toilsome, and unremitting co-operation of the navy; and the important, unparalleled, and well-earned victories which were obtained, deserve an eulogium, which, though I have an heart to feel, I do not possess the power to express.

Nor have I forgotten the conquerors of Seringapatam, who, after a long period of toil and suffering by sea and by land, at length joined their European fellow-soldiers in Egypt: And though they came too late to share in their victories, they have a fair claim to a portion of their laurels.

After all—However imperfectly this Work may be executed, and whatever literary defects it may possess, I do not hesitate to present it to my Country as an authentic record of its glory.

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CITY OF VITTORIOSA.

- 1 Marine Gate.
- 2 Principal Gate.
- 3 Bastion of St. John.
- 4 The Curtin.
- 5 Post of Castile.
- 6 Bastion of St. Dominick.
- 7 Gate of Castile.
- 8 The Horn-work.
- 9 Marked Battery.
- 10 Inquisitor's Palace.
- 11 Church and Convent of St. Dominick.
- 12 Parish-church of the Greeks.
- 13 Parish-church of St. Laurence.
- 14 Arsenal of the Gallies.
- 15 General's Palace.
- 16 Palace of the Officers.
- 17 Church and Monastery of St. Scholas-
tica.

CASTLE OF ST. ANGELO.

- 18 Principal Gate.
- 19 Bastion Domes.
- 20 Tower of the Knights.

- 21 Bastion of the Amphitheatre.
- 22 Lower Battery.
23. Antient Palace of the Grand Master.

CITY OF SENGLEA.

- 24 Principal Gate.
- 25 Bastion of St. Michael.
- 26 Masked Battery.
- 27 Boundary of the Island.
- 28 Gate of the Mine.
- 29 Church, &c. of St. Philip Neri.
- 30 Gate on the Point.
- 31 Lower Battery.
- 32 Garden of the Syren.
- 33 Conservatorio Sagniana.
- 34 Church of St. Julian.
- 35 Parochial and Collegiate Church of
Victory.
- 36 Palace of the Officers.
- 37 Mill.

CITY OF BIRMULA.

- 38 Conservatorio of the Poor Girls.
- 39 Church and Monastery of St. Margaret.

- 40
- 41 Bastion of the Mole.
- 42 Wind-mill.
- 43 Bastion of Fiorenzolo.
- 44 Curtin.
- 45 Bastion of St. Helena.
- 46 Gate de Mortali.
- 47 Bastion of St. Paul.
- 48 Bastion and Curtin of St. Raphael.
- 49 Dock Yard.
- 50 Naval Arsenal.
- 51 Mooring Place for Boats.
- 52 Church of St. Paul.
- 53 Parish Church of the Holy Crucifix.
- 54 Place of Arms.
- 55 Church and Convent of St. Teresa.

THE COTTONERA.

- 56 Bastion of St. Lorenzo.
- 57 Gate of our Saviour.
- 58 Fort of our Saviour.
- 59 Bastion of our Saviour.
- 60 Gate of St. Louis.
- 61 Bastion of St. Louis.
- 62 Gate of St. James.

- 63 Bastion of St. James.
- 64 Powder Magazine.
- 65 Gate of the Virgin.
- 66 Bastion of the Virgin.
- 67 Bastion of St. Clement.
- 68 Gate of St. Nicolas.
- 69 Bastion of St. Nicolas.
- 70 Gate of Zeitun.
- 71 Bastion of St. John.
- 72 Gate of St. John.
- 73 Bastion of St. Paul.
- 74 Gate of Andiuli.
- 75 Bastion of Yalberca.

FORT RICASOLI.

- 76 Principal Gate.
- 77 Boundary of the Coast.
- 78 Tower of the Bear, with a low Battery.
- 79 Boundary of the Sea Coast.
- 80 The Casernes.
- 81 Bastion of the Head.
- 82 Masked Battery.
- 83 Half Moon.
- 84 Covered Way.
- 85 Church of the Fort.

*TABLE of REFERENCES to the different Parts of the City of VA-
LETTA, the Castle of ST. ELMO, FLORIANA, and FORT EMANUEL.*

CITY OF VALETTA.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1 The Royal Gate. | 27 Armoury. |
| 2 Bastion of St. John. | 28 Foundry. |
| 3 Bastion of St. Paul. | 29 Hotel of Castile. |
| 4 Bastion of St. Andrew. | 30 Palace of the Bishop Sciberas. |
| 5 Gate of Marsamuscetto. | 31 Hotel of Italy. |
| 6 Bastion of our Saviour. | 32 Church and Convent of the Franciscans. |
| 7 Post of | 33 Hotel of France. |
| 8 Refuge of the French. | 34 Oven of the Religious Houses. |
| 9 Post of Vendome. | 35 Church and Convent of the Augustins. |
| 10 Bastion of Caraffa. | 36 Hotel of Provence. |
| 11 Platform. | 37 The Court House. |
| 12 Curtin of the Infirmary. | 38 Church and Convent of the Observan-
tines. |
| 13 Post of Castile. | 39 Church of St. John the Baptist. |
| 14 Curtin. | 40 Hotel of Auverge. |
| 15 Platform. | 41 Mooring place. |
| 16 The Marine Gate. | 42 The Treasury. |
| 17 Curtin. | 43 Conservatorio. |
| 18 Garden of the Grand Master. | 44 Parish Church of St. Paul. |
| 19 Public Fountain. | 45 Herb Market. |
| 20 Custom House. | 46 Armoury of the Palace. |
| 21 Lascheri Gate. | 47 Palace of S. A. S. |
| 22 Post of Italy. | 48 Church and Convent of the Carmelites. |
| 23 Bastion of St. James. | 49 Hotel of Germany. |
| 24 Towers of the Knights. | 50 Hotel of Arragon. |
| 25 Counter-Guard. | 51 Palace of Viscoville. |
| 26 Half-Moon. | 52 Church of the Greeks. |

- | | |
|--|---|
| 53 Church and College of the Jesuits. | 76 Magazines. |
| 54 Church and Monastery of St. Ursula. | 77 Church and Convent of the Capuchins. |
| 55 Prison of the Slaves. | 78 Bastion of St. Francis. |
| 56 Church and Monastery of St. Catharine. | 79 Principal Gate. |
| 57 Hotel of Bavaria. | 80 Church of the Conception. |
| 58 Church and Convent of St. Dominick. | 81 Centre Bastion. |
| 59 Church of All Souls. | 82 Bastion of the Virgin. |
| 60 Hospital. | 83 Conservatorio de S. A. S. |
| 61 The Commorata Palace. | 84 Church and Hermitage of Gesci. |
| 62 Church and Convent of St. Mary Magdalene. | 85 The left Boundary. |
| 63 Hospital for Women. | 86 Retreat for the Poor. |
| 64 Magazine of Perillos. | 87 Trenches. |
| 65 Granaries. | 88 Church of St. Publices. |
| 66 Gate of Fort St. Elmo. | 89 Half Moon. |
| 67 Covered Way. | 90 Gate Mortali. |

CASTLE OF ST. ELMO.

- 68 The Casernes.
 69 Tower of the Knights.
 70 New Casernes.
 71

FLORIANA.

- 72 Magazines of the Lascars.
 73 Gate of the Lime Kiln.
 74 Lime-Kiln.
 75 The right Boundary.

- 92 Horn Work.
 93 Crown Work.
 94 Covered Way.
 95 Gate Mortali.

FORT EMANUEL.

- 96 Gate of the Fort.
 97 Casernes.
 98 Officers quarters.
 99 Church of the Fort.
 100 Mooring-place for Boats.

Description of the View of the City of VALETTA with Part of the Grand Harbour.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Floriano. | 12 Church of St. Roche. |
| 2 Notre Dame De'La Conceptione. | 13 Prison for Slaves. |
| 3 La Calcara. | 14 The Old Barracks. |
| 4 Magazines of the British Commissary General. | 15 Warehouses and Magazines occupied by Merchants and the Commissary-General. |
| 5 Grand Master's Garden, now General Villette's. | 16 The Barrier where Quarantine Goods are landed, and the Pratique Office. |
| 6 Barracks, and the Saluting Battery. | 17 Le Salvatore, a Place of Public Worship. |
| 7 Port Marino. | 18 The Fountain of the Marino. |
| 8 Church of St. Jean Majore. | 19 Notre Dame de Lies. |
| 9 Church of St. Paul. | 20 The Great Harbour of Malta. |
| 10 Grand Master's Palace. | |
| 11 The Jesuits College. | |

DIRECTIONS for placing the PLATES.

- Plan of Malta, &c. to front the Title Page.
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JOURNAL OF THE FORCES,

&c. &c.

CHAPTER I.

Departure of the Secret Expedition under the Command of Lieutenant General Pigot—It arrives at Torbay—Leaves England—Circumstances of the Voyage—Fall in with Admiral Duckworth's Squadron—Pass Gibraltar—Arrive at Minorca—Cantonment, Stations, and Employment of the Army in that Island—Grand Celebration of his Majesty's Birth-Day—Description of it—Sir Ralph Abercromby and his Suite arrive at the Island—General Pigot appointed to command the Forces at Malta—The Army re-embark to pursue the Object of the Expedition—Brief Account of the Island of Minorca.

THE two battalions of the 40th regiment, commanded by Colonel Spencer and Earl Craven, having been ordered on the secret expedition, embarked this day on board his Majesty's troop-ships *Charon, Expedition, Hebe, and Vestal*, amidst the loud and animating acclamations of the people on shore.

March 1800.

Friday 28.

MARGATE.

B

We

March 1800.

Saturday 29.

We sailed for the Downs, and came to an anchor off Deal, where we were joined by the following ships, composing part of the squadron destined for the same service, viz. the *Inflexible*, commanded by Captain Page, now appointed Commodore, with the *Wassenaer*, *Stately*, *Alkmaar*, *Pallas*, *Romulus*, *Ceres*, and the *Serapis* ordered out with stores for the island of Minorca. The troops on board were the two battalions of the 17th, and the two battalions of the 35th regiments.

APRIL.

Friday 4.

DEAL.

A signal was made for all officers and men to repair on board their respective ships. But the fleet, after a fruitless attempt to proceed, was obliged to come again to an anchor.

Monday 7.

We continued to be detained by contrary winds; and General Pigot issued an order, commanding all officers wives and their families to be immediately landed from the ships, as they would not, on any account, be permitted to accompany the expedition. This order, which was altogether unexpected, occasioned no small degree of confusion and discontent among the matrimonial class of the army, as they had made their appropriate arrangements for the voyage.

I shall not interrupt my narrative by entering into a particular detail of the great impropriety of permitting, in time of war, any description of women to accompany an army destined for foreign service. The inconveniences are self-evident, and must be apparent to

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

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to those who have not been the witnesses of them. On the present occasion, the enforcement of the order already mentioned produced such an affecting scene as should never be repeated in a similar situation. The bravest heart must be affected by it; and an official prohibition from the Commander in Chief, to prevent the recurrence of such circumstances, would be attended with very beneficial effects to the service. The order, however, being at length fulfilled, the signal was made to weigh anchor, and the whole fleet set sail with a gentle breeze. The weather continued to be moderate till the 9th, when it became thick and hazy.

April 1800.

We this day boarded a Danish brig, which was bound from Cadiz to Hamburgh, and laden with wine.

Wednesd. 9,
on board the
Vesta at sea.

The weather was very tempestuous, with an heavy sea, and many of the squadron were driven so far to the leeward, that several of them were out of sight. There was little variation of the weather till the 12th, when at ten o'clock in the morning the haziness subsided, though it still blew very fresh. We now discovered, to our great joy, that, after the severe tossing we had experienced in the Channel, we were off Torbay; and we were as anxious to put into it, as if we had been returned from a long voyage. The movements and signals of the Commodore rendered it, however, for some time a matter of doubt whether we should be permitted to enjoy that pleasure. This state of suspense was not of long duration,

Thursday 10.

Saturday 12.

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tion,

JOURNAL OF THE

April 1800. tion, and at four o'clock *p. m.* we enjoyed the satisfaction of coming to an anchor in Torbay, where we found the Channel fleet, consisting of thirty-five sail of the line, under the command of Admiral Viscount Bridport.

In the course of the evening the *St. George* of 98 guns arrived with the loss of her fore and main-topmasts; with several of the fleet belonging to the expedition.

Sunday 13.
TORBAY.

The wind still continued to blow very hard. In the course of the morning I went on shore at Brixham, from whence I made an hasty visit to some friends at Exeter who were very dear to me, and which I thought, from the circumstances of my situation, might probably be my last. I arrived there in company with Captain Williams of the 40th, at four in the afternoon; and having fulfilled the interesting object of our journey, as well as purchased a few articles, which in this early period of the voyage I had found to be necessary to my comfort, we left Exeter at ten in evening,

Monday 14. and arrived in the early part of the morning at Torbay, where the Channel fleet still remained at anchor, from contrary winds.

In consequence of the two fleets being together in Torbay, curiosity had brought so large a concourse of people from every part of the surrounding country, that the houses and even hovels of this small village were crowded with visitors as well as with officers of the

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

the navy and army ; and every article of life was accordingly raised to a most exorbitant price. April 1800.

The expedition was here joined by Brigadier-General Weyms, and the two battalions of the 5th regiment destined for Gibraltar.

Several of the ladies who were ordered on shore at Deal, on hearing that the fleet had put into Torbay, hastened to Brixham, in the hope that the prohibition to their accompanying the fleet might, if not altogether taken off, be so far relaxed as to gratify their persevering wishes. But here they found new obstructions and augmented disappointment ; as the order of Major-General Pigot at Deal, forbidding officers to take their wives or families along with them, under pain of disobedience of orders, had been enforced by a subsequent order to the same effect, from his Royal Highness the Commander in Chief.

No material occurrence took place till the 23d, when the signal was made for all the officers and men belonging to the ships of the expedition to repair on board, as the wind appeared to be coming round ; a circumstance which gave universal pleasure ; as a general anxiety prevailed to proceed on the service to which we were destined, wherever and whatever it might be : for the regret which might be supposed to arise at the first idea of quitting the British shore, Wednesd. 23.
was

April 1800. was soon banished by the ardent hope of returning thither with an accession to British glory.

Thursday 24,
on board the
Vestal, Tor-
bay. This morning at day-light the signal was made for sailing; and at seven the whole fleet was under way, with a fine easterly breeze. A squadron of the Channel fleet sailed at the same time, on a cruize off the coast of France. The weather was fine and pleasant throughout the day; and we continued to be in sight of the English coast.

Friday 25. At an early hour of this morning we discovered a sloop at a great distance, which was, at first, supposed to be French; but, on being brought to by the *Charon*, proved to be a Danish merchantman bound to Madeira, and laden with spirits. She was detained some time by order of the Commodore, to prevent her giving intelligence. In the course of the evening she was suffered to proceed on her voyage.

Saturday 26. The weather continued to be moderate, and we had lost sight of the British coast; but, in the course of the morning, the wind changed from moderate to very strong breezes, accompanied with a very heavy swell. As the ship rolled deep and laboured very much, the ward-room tables were fastened, and our trunks secured from the effects of such a situation. In the afternoon we discovered a strange vessel,

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

7

vessel, and the *Vestal*, who had received a signal to chase, crowded every sail to come up with her, when she proved to be a friend. In the chase, having carried away our fore-top-gallant-mast, we consequently shortened sail. An heavy swell continued during the night, with a great sea, which made no inconsiderable havoc among that part of our stores which add so much to the support and exhilaration of a tedious voyage.

April 1800.

The weather became more moderate, with less swell and little motion, when the ship's company were employed in replacing the top-gallant-mast which had been carried away in the chase of the preceding day. At eleven o'clock *a.m.* the three companies on board the ship were paraded on the quarter-deck, in their regimentals, with arms and accoutrements, when they were found in excellent order, and the men in good health and high spirits.

Sunday 27.

The weather continued to be moderate and pleasant. The only disagreeable circumstance of the day, was the necessary punishment of a soldier and two seamen for drunkenness.

Monday 28.

Early this morning we discovered land; the weather continuing moderate and pleasant, with a fine steady breeze. The whole fleet was in company, sailing, on an average, at the rate of six knots an hour. About three *p.m.* a squall came on, accompanied with heavy rain, which continued with variable winds during the remainder

Tuesday 29.

April 1800. mainder of the day. We were under the necessity of making several tacks to weather Cape Finisterre.

Wednesd. 30. The squally weather and rain was now succeeded by a calm, the fleet consequently making very little way. We saw land, which afterwards appeared to be Cape Ortegal. A strange sail was also perceived from the main-topmast, which, when she was brought to, proved to be a neutral vessel bound from Cadiz to Hamburgh with salt.

MAY.
Thursday 1. The fleet remained in company, and as nothing happened to engage our attentions, imagination was busy in forming conjectures respecting the place of our destination, and the nature of the service on which we were to be employed. But conjecture was all we could boast; for such profound secrecy was observed by those who were alone acquainted with the nature and object of the expedition, that there was not the least ground on which a probable opinion could be formed.

Friday 2. The Commodore made a signal to practise the great gun exercise. The soldiers and marines were also employed in firing with the small arms.

Saturday 3. The weather was fine and moderate, and the whole fleet in company. We this day discovered Cape St. Vincent, a memorable spot, which

which we regarded with peculiar exultation, on the recollection of May 1800.
 the brilliant victory obtained off it, over the Spanish, by Earl St. Vincent. As the night drew on, the wind subsided, and the weather became calm. In the course of the evening, and during great part of the night, a continual cannonading was heard from the shore, which was supposed to proceed from alarm guns, on the appearance of the British fleet off the Spanish coast. At the close of the evening four sail of ships were observed standing towards the fleet, but night coming on we were prevented from discovering what they were.

The weather continued as it had been the preceding day, with Sunday 4.
 little variation.

We were now joined by Admiral Duckworth's squadron, which Monday 5.
 left us in the course of the night. These were the vessels which were seen on Saturday evening.

The wind now freshened with strong breezes; the coast of Spain being in sight. Towards the evening we discovered Cape Trafalgar near the Straits of Gibraltar. The fleet, at this time, made great way, and about eight o'clock *p. m.* entered the Gut. At midnight we passed the lofty and majestic rock, which, though barren in itself, has, by the efforts of British prowess, been made to produce a plenteous growth of laurels for the decoration of British glory. As the moon

C

shone

May 1800. shone bright, we enjoyed a distinct view of it; and the patriot feelings of Englishmen were roused in the bosoms of us all, but particularly of those, who, for the first time, beheld this animating and tremendous object.—But it was ordained in this, as in every other voyage, that pleasure is not to be enjoyed without alloy; for we were very severely mortified at not putting in there, as we expected, for refreshments. The vessels having the two battalions of the 5th regiment on board, with the *Serapis* store-ship, now parted company and put into the bay; those troops being appointed as a reinforcement to the garrison of Gibraltar.

Tuesday 6. The clearness of the morning afforded a beautiful, though distant view, of the celebrated rock which we had passed the preceding night. The fleet now steered apparently in a due course to Minorca, and, as we sailed along the coast of Spain, the whole range of it appeared to be backed with lofty mountains, whose tops were covered with snow. The weather was now become not only warm but sultry. We also observed several towns and villages, with many strong forts, at certain intervals, to defend the coast, and, in the intermediate spaces, a chain of gun-boats were stationed for the same purpose. We boarded several vessels in the course of the day, which were officially examined and dismissed.

Wednesd. 7. The fleet continued in company, but, it being a dead calm, made no way. As we proceeded, our conjectures assumed a more solid appearance.

appearance respecting the expedition ; and it was now determined, May 1800.
 by the more speculating spirits among us, that Carthagea or Majorca were the objects of it. This evening, however, proved the fallacy of our opinions, concerning an attack of the former, as we passed that place ; of which, however, we were gratified with a very clear and distinct view.

The weather continued to be extremely hot, with little or no wind ; Thursday 8.
 and, to add to the inconvenience of our present situation, our fresh stock was this day expended ; a circumstance which quickened our impatience for a speedy termination of the voyage.

We had a fresh and pleasant breeze, but were prevented from Friday 9.
 taking an advantage of it from the bad sailing of several ships in the fleet, for which we were obliged to wait till it became a dead calm, and consequently lost that favourable opportunity of proceeding on our course. Another misfortune was now pressing upon us ; for our wine and English beer were also drawing to a conclusion.

The weather continued to be sultry, nor was the heat relieved by Saturday 10.
 a breath of wind.—The fleet remained as if at anchor, not making an inch of way in twenty-four hours. We spoke with the Commodore, and, for our consolation in this disagreeable position, he communicated the agreeable intelligence, that the city of Genoa

May 1800. had surrendered to the Austrian arms, and that the *Guillaume Tell*, of 80 guns, and one of the finest ships in the French navy, had, after a very gallant action, been taken by the *Lion* and *Foudroyant*, off the island of Malta, from which place she had attempted to make her escape. This important news had been communicated by a vessel which he spoke with from the Mediterranean. It appeared, from observation, that we were now approaching Minorca: we could not however discover that island or Majorca: indeed, a strong prepossession prevailed that we should attack the latter, and several wagers were offered by the most sanguine among us, in support of that opinion.

Sunday 11. The weather continued to be sultry and oppressive; and we now discovered the island of Majorca, and, as we approached it, the land appeared to be very high and inaccessible in every part. In the course of the night we passed it, and experienced another proof of

Monday 12. the fallacy of our conjectures. The following day we had a very fine breeze and clear weather, and the island of Minorca appeared before us. In the course of the afternoon the fleet lay-to off the mouth of the harbour. The Commodore, however, having received instructions to keep under weigh, the fleet again stood off; a circumstance which not only renewed our speculations, but occasioned no small portion of chagrin and disappointment, as our private stores were altogether exhausted, and water itself was diminishing into scarcity.

At

At five o'clock *a. m.* to the great joy of the whole fleet, a signal was unexpectedly made to the Commodore to stand in to the harbour, and about one o'clock *p. m.* we came to an anchor. The two battalions of the 17th were immediately disembarked on the side of George Town, and were encamped between that place and Fort George, formerly called Fort St. Phillip, on the outside of the glacis of the latter; and in the evening, similar orders were issued by Lieutenant-General Fox, for the remainder of the troops to land at five o'clock in the morning at the Lazaretto.

May 1800.

Tuesday 13.

The orders of the preceding evening were put in execution, and the troops landed accordingly on the beach, where they remained several hours under arms. The unexpected arrival of such a body of forces increased the difficulty of preparing accommodations; and, as the barracks were not sufficiently large to receive them, they were under the necessity of waiting till the camp-equipage could be landed from the ships. From various difficulties, however, that presented themselves, it was not till the approach of evening that we could get the tents pitched, after being exposed throughout the day to the excessive heat of the sun, and without being able to obtain the least refreshment. Another inconvenience, and of some importance, was the want of bedding, which was occasioned by the hurry in which we left England, and the total ignorance of our destination; we were therefore obliged to be contented with a blanket, and a hard rock, to supply the deficiency.

Wednesd. 14.

This

May 1800.

Thursday 15.
Camp at La-
zaretto, Mi-
NORCA.

This morning Colonel Spencer changed the arrangement made the preceding day: the whole of our tents were accordingly struck, and pitched on the brow of the hill, in front of George Town, but more to the left of our former position. A more barren spot cannot well be conceived, as not the smallest interval of earth was to be found, to relieve its perpetual ruggedness. In such a situation, so rough and so rude, it was impossible to place the tents in any becoming degree of military exactness; but it being considered merely as a temporary retiring place, the usual regularity of appearance was dispensed with. To make some amends, however, for the inconveniencies of this position, it afforded a commanding and most beautiful prospect; comprehending the mouth of the harbour, George Town, and the fort of that name, with the Lazaretto, and the Marine island; on the latter, there is an hospital for the use of the navy.

The two battalions of the 17th regiment, with the 28th and 48th from Gibraltar, were encamped, as already observed, on the ground without the glacis of Fort George: they had very much the advantage of us, being on level ground, and within gun-shot of George Town, where refreshments might be quickly obtained. Our situation, on the contrary, was entirely destitute of similar accommodations, and was but ill supplied even with water.

Friday 16. The weather was sultry in the extreme, and the troops were
princi-

principally employed in getting the tents properly arranged and clearing the camp ground of stones. Nothing indeed occurred, that in any point of view is worthy an insertion, till the 24th, when a vessel arrived from Leghorn, which brought dispatches that had been sent overland thither, to be forwarded to this island for General Fox and Sir Ralph Abercromby. This circumstance, as may be well imagined, occasioned a considerable degree of surprize and speculation, as it had been the universal opinion that Sir Charles Stuart would have been appointed our Commander in Chief. There can be no doubt that he returned to England overland, to form the plan of operations for the summer campaign in the Mediterranean, and was expected to meet the troops at Minorca, to take the command of them. The intelligence of this day, however, served to enliven the camp, by giving a fresh turn to the general hopes and expectations, from the apparent appointment of Sir Ralph Abercromby to be the Commander in Chief of our army.

May 1800.

Saturday 24.

I do not pretend that the genius of conjecture which prevailed among us, had any better foundation at present, than on former occasions, but Italy was now considered as the spot which would be the summer scene of our military operations; and we looked, with great anxiety, for the arrival of Sir Ralph Abercromby, to change the very disagreeable situation in which we now were, for that scene of action, whatever it might be, to which he would conduct us.

May 1800.

The uniformity of our lives at this place was such as to admit of little or no variety. This may be readily believed from the nature of our situation, and my not having a single event to mention till the 31st, except the sailing of a vessel for England, which gave us the agreeable opportunity of communicating some accounts of ourselves to our friends there.

Sunday 31. - In consequence of an order from his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, the brigade on the Lazaretto side was inspected by him, when he was pleased to approve, in very warm terms, the appearance of the several regiments. This will be evident from the regimental orders of Colonel Lord Craven, which were issued on the occasion.

"Lazaretto Camp, Minorca, June 1, 1800.

Sunday,
JUNE 1.

"Colonel Lord Craven wishes to express his satisfaction to the 2nd battalion of the 40th regiment, for their soldier-like and clean appearance before his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor on Saturday: as a token of which, he releases and pardons all the men now under sentence of courts-martial, and those likewise who are confined for minor crimes."

Wednesd. 4. This being the anniversary of his Majesty's birth-day, the same was celebrated by every demonstration of joy suited to the happy occasion.

The

The following regiments were drawn up on the Lazaretto side. June 1800.
The two battalions of the 35th on the right; Dillon's, and the ancient Irish fencibles, in the centre; and the two battalions of the 40th regiment on the left. At eleven o'clock the whole was formed on their respective stations, in open columns of companies; and soon after was wheeled into line, when the files opened from right to left, which extended the line from the river on the Lazaretto side, over the inequalities of the camp ground, till it terminated on the summit of an hill of considerable height.

Immediately opposite, on the George Town side of the river, the line commenced on the banks, and stretched, in an oblique manner, along the glacis of Fort George for about three quarters of a mile. The regiments that composed this part of the line were the 8th or king's, the two battalions of the 17th, the 48th and 90th, the Minorca regiment, and De Rolles' Swiss guards; they were also wheeled by signals into line. At half past eleven the Lieutenant-Governor, with a numerous retinue, arrived in barges at Fort George, when the signal was made for the lines on either side of the river to prime and load. The men then came to ordered arms, and within a few minutes of twelve o'clock the whole line shouldered arms.

At twelve, the great guns began to fire from Citadella, and the firing continued successively along the whole coast of the island till

D

it

June 1800.

it reached Fort George, where every piece of artillery was regularly discharged. A similar cannonade then continued on the side opposite from Fort Philipet, and from all the towers, till every gun was discharged. The infantry then commenced a *feu-de-joye* from the 35th regiment, and continued like the roll of a drum along the whole line till it terminated with the 40th. It was then renewed on the opposite shore, and run on without the least interruption to the end of the lines. This firing was repeated twice, and followed by three cheers, whose loyal and animating sound, proceeding from the tongues and hearts of so large a body of British troops, produced an effect which my feeble powers are unable to describe. The scene was grand and impressive, and received no small addition from the beauty of the day. The whole concluded with a general salute, the regimental bands joining in the animating air of "God save the King!"

It may be mentioned as a singular and curious circumstance, that, while the Duke of Orleans and his brothers accompanied the Lieutenant-Governor on the Fort George side of the river, the French Admiral, who was taken in the *Guillaume Tell*, accompanied Sir Edward Berry on the Lazaretto side of it. Such were the spectators of a spectacle, that might indeed fill them with admiration, but was by no means calculated to afford consolation to their respective conditions. The French Admiral indeed expressed himself in the warmest terms of approbation, at this display of British disci-

pline and British loyalty ; and acknowledged the very high opinion he was induced to entertain of the happiness of British subjects, from the joy that seemed to beam from every countenance, at this ceremonial of duty and affection to their Sovereign. On the dropping of the colours at the salute, the French Admiral and his officers made a very low obeisance, and remained for some time uncovered.

June 1800.

No event that would justify a detail of it took place since the magnificent festival of his Majesty's birth-day, till the arrival of the *Seahorse* frigate this morning from England ; she was only twenty days on her passage, and had on board Sir Ralph Abercromby, with Major-Generals Hutchinson and Moore, and their suite.

Sunday 22.

This circumstance gave new life and spirits to the whole army, and that anxiety with respect to our future destination, which had so often evaporated in idle conjectures, was now likely to be satisfied.

At ten in the morning, Sir Ralph Abercromby and the other officers, with their suites, landed under a salute of nineteen guns from the battery of Fort George, which was repeated on his reaching Mahon. His first conference with General Fox produced immediate orders for the following regiments to embark the next day, at four in the morning—the 28th, the two battalions of the 40th regiment, the 48th and 90th regiments, and the Swiss regiment of De

D 2

Rolles.

June 1800.

Rolles. The 42d was also comprehended in the same order, but being at Citadella, which is two days march from George-town, they could not arrive to embark with us. The first battalion of the 35th had already sailed for Malta, as a reinforcement to the troops in that island, and the second battalion remained in Minorca till shipping could be obtained to receive them.

Major-General Pigot was appointed by Sir Ralph Abercromby to command the forces at Malta; to which place he had proceeded with the first division of the 35th regiment.

The regiments which were left for the defence of Minorca, were the 8th or king's, the two battalions of the 17th, the 50th and 58th, with the Minorca and Dillon regiments, and the Corsican rangers.

We were busily employed during the remainder of the day in arranging our baggage, according to the orders, which prohibited all heavy baggage, and particularly specified that no women were to accompany the army: they were to remain with the sick at Minorca, under the care of a field officer, who was appointed to that service.

Monday 29. This morning at three o'clock we began to strike our tents, and remove our heavy baggage to a store-house appointed for that purpose,

June 1800.

pose, and at four the whole were struck, and delivered over to the quarter-master, together with the boards which had been allowed the men to sleep on. The two battalions were under arms at five o'clock, when they were marched down to the Quay, where they remained for some time till boats came to take them off. We then embarked by companies; the men giving three cheers as they were pushed off from the shore. The 40th were all ordered on board the *Hindostan*, which lay at a considerable distance from the mouth of the harbour, so that it was eleven o'clock in the forenoon before the embarkation of the regiment was completed.

The scene of confusion on going on board is not easily described, there being no less than thirteen hundred men and sixty officers crammed into one ship, without accommodation of any kind. There was not, indeed, sufficient space for the officers and men to lie down even on the deck. Much accommodation is not expected by troops going on actual service; but this injudicious arrangement is not to be imputed to necessity, as several useless transports were lying in the harbour; nor was it supposed to have been the intention of the Commander in Chief to have subjected any part of the troops to such distressing inconvenience; for if it had been suffered to continue, the heat of the weather would infallibly have carried off one-third of them. We, however, put to sea the same evening, about sun-set, but with little prospect of proceeding, as it was almost a dead calm.

The

June 1800.

The island of Minorca is situated in lat. 39. 40. long. 21. 30. 22. is about thirty-two miles in length, and from nine to thirteen in breadth.

It contains four towns, which give names to the several divisions or terminos. They are Mahon, Alaior, Mercadel, and Citadella. Besides these, there are several smaller towns, and many villages.

Mahon is the principal place, and, whenever the island has been possessed by the English, the seat of government. Its situation is elevated, commanding a fine view of the harbour. The buildings are generally of stone, the rooms frequently vaulted, and the roofs flat and terraced. The streets are narrow, and ill paved, and would be very inconvenient for foot passengers if carriages were common; but they are very seldom seen, as there are not more than two or three in the whole island. It is about two miles from the mouth of the harbour, which is defended on each side by Fort George and Fort Philipet.

At the foot of the hill, opposite Mahon, there is a very fine wharf, where the king's ships are careened and repaired; and such is the depth of water, that those of the largest size may lay commodiously along-side; so that a plank is the only necessary communication between the ship and the shore.

English Cove, which is situated between George Town and Mahon,

Mahon, is one of the watering-places for ships. The water, which is excellent, and in great abundance, is conveyed from a reservoir within a few yards of the beach, by a stone gutter, to leathern pipes, which communicate with the casks. There is another similar accommodation at the Cove of George Town, about three quarters of a mile further down the harbour.

June 1800.

In the centre of the harbour, and nearly opposite English Cove, stands the Hospital Island, which derives its name from a noble and most commodious hospital erected upon it for the use of the navy. It is an handsome square building, and commands a delightful prospect, which comprehends the entrance of the harbour, the forts George and Philipet, George Town, Quarantine Island, and the Lazaretto branch of the harbour. The air is of superior purity, and every circumstance corresponds with the wholesomeness of its situation. There are wards set apart for officers, and the utmost attention to cleanliness is given in every part of it. There is also a considerable space round the building, where convalescents may walk and take their necessary exercise. Of Dr. Gray, the physician of this hospital, too much cannot be said; because he has ever appeared to think that too much cannot be done to promote the utility and advantages of his department.

There is a cove nearly opposite, on the Mahon side, named Oyster Cove, where the Minorquins dive for oysters and sea-eggs, ten and twelve

June 1800. twelve fathoms deep ; and having disengaged them from the rocks with a hammer, ascend instantly, and throw them into a basket.

About half a mile to the left, opposite George Town, is Quarantine Island, which contains the building appropriated to those who are performing quarantine, and a range of store-houses for airing their merchandize, as preparatory to its being exposed to sale.

Opposite to the Lazaretto is Fort George, formerly called Fort St. Philip. It is built on a neck of land between Mahon harbour and Stephen's Cove ; and its fortifications extend to the shore on both sides of it. The body of the place consists of several bastions and strong batteries, and is surrounded by a ditch. On several eminences, round towers have been erected, mounted with heavy ordnance.

This place has received many important and admirable improvements under the government of General Fox, whose whole time and thoughts were employed in advancing the happiness of the people submitted to his command, and extending the honour of the country which he served. The barracks are bomb-proof, and sufficient to contain 10,000 men ; so that with a sufficient supply of provisions and stores, the garrison might maintain a very long siege.

The

The roads in Minorca, previous to the arrival of General Fox, June 1800.
appear to have been totally neglected: in the short period, however, of his government, the Minorquins will have ample reason to remember him with grateful satisfaction; as they can now boast of as fine a carriage road as any in the world, from Mahon to Citadella, a distance of thirty miles.

George Town is situated about half a mile from the fort of the same name, and is a neat, comfortable place, containing excellent barracks for the troops.

From the warmth of the climate, fires are seldom lighted but for culinary purposes, and in the workshop of the artisan. Nevertheless, in the months of November and December last, there was a severe frost, and a considerable fall of snow, though such examples of inclement weather are not often experienced.

The inhabitants are of a swarthy complexion, and resemble the Spaniards in their exterior appearance. The women of the higher class are in general fair, possess very pleasing features, and a very well proportioned shape; though their dress is by no means calculated to set them off to advantage. It consists generally of a silk petticoat that does not reach beyond the calf of the leg, a short jacket, and a kind of shawl handkerchief that is thrown over the head and falls down to the waist. They wear enormous false tails,

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which

June 1806.

which they intermingle with their own hair : they are of such a length as almost to touch the ground. They pride themselves in the neatness of their legs, and, of course, take care to display them. The men adopt the dress of the Spaniards ; but the higher ranks imitate the English fashions.

There is a great trade carried on here with the different ports of the Mediterranean, but the people trouble themselves little about agriculture, though, if their indolent disposition would suffer them to extend the cultivation of the Island, they might, without any great exertions, produce a quantity of corn, &c. sufficient for its consumption.

The lower classes seldom taste animal food, but live chiefly on bread, oil, garlic, and other vegetables. I had the curiosity to enter an house where I saw the family at dinner, which I found to consist of bread and thistles ; they scraped off the prickles of the plant, and then dipping it in salt, appeared to eat it with a kind of relish.

CHAPTER II.

Slow Progress of the Fleet—Some of the Ships obliged to return to Mahon Harbour—Troops land—New Arrangements made respecting them—They re-embark—Proceed on their Voyage—Pass Corsica—Tardy Progress—Arrive at Leghorn—Circumstances that followed—Honours paid to the Queen of Naples—General Observations—Visit Leghorn—The Fleet leave that Port—Admirable Conduct of a private Soldier—Successful Application of the Means recommended by the Humane Society for the Recovery of Drowned Persons—Circumstances of the Voyage—Return to Mahon Harbour—Arrival of Troops there from England—Interruptions to the Expedition—Arrangement of the Troops in Minorca—Succession of General Orders for that Purpose, and the Embarkation of the Army—The Troops embark.

THE calm continued, so that we made no way, and the weather was extremely sultry. We remained, therefore, in sight of the island, and were stationary opposite the Telegraphic Tower.

June 1800.

Tuesday 24,
on board the
Hindustan at
sea.

This morning Brigadier-General Doyle came on board, and gave some small relief to the crowded state of the *Hindustan*, by sending an hundred and fifty men on board the *Expedition*. He also ordered a quantity of pork to be delivered to that ship in exchange for water, as we were rather deficient in the latter article. These exchanges

Wednesd. 25.

E 2

occupied

June 1800. occupied the greater part of the day. The extreme heat of the weather had not abated; and our uncomfortable state will be readily conceived, when it is stated, that forty officers were confined, as it may be said, to a small gun-room: besides, having been ordered away at so short a notice, no stock of any kind could be provided; so that we were obliged to subsist on ship rations.

Thursday 26. The calm continued through the night; but the weather freshened in the morning, and we lost sight of Minorca. We were spoke to by the *Woolwich* early this morning, who communicated the mortifying intelligence that Genoa was repossessed by the French. This unexpected event totally changed our destination; as it was generally understood, before we sailed, that we were, in some way or other, to co-operate with the army commanded by General Melas. It was, however, still determined that we should continue our course to Leghorn. But such was the crowded state of the *Hindustan*, so great the scarcity of water on board, and so very adverse the little wind there was, together with the heavy sailing of the ship, that General Doyle determined to put back to Minorca; and on Friday the 27th we came to an anchor, in company with the *Expedition*, in Mahon harbour, after suffering, for five days, all the inconveniences and distress which have been already described. The rest of the squadron, with the troops on board, continued their course for Leghorn.

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

29

This morning the second battalion of the 40th regiment, commanded by Colonel Lord Craven, was landed from the *Hindostan* at the Lazaretto, from whence the men were marched to the barracks lately occupied by the ancient Irish fencibles, where they were to remain till the transports could be got ready to receive them. The first battalion, commanded by Colonel Spencer, remained on board, as the ship now afforded sufficient accommodation for them. This and the following day were employed in providing stock for the voyage, as there was every reason to expect that the transports would be ready for our reception on the approaching Monday.

June 1800.

Saturday 28,
MAHON har-
bour.

This morning, at eight o'clock, the battalion embarked on board the *Triton* and *Valiant* transports. The former received Colonel Lord Craven and six companies; and the latter, Lieutenant-Colonel Clay and four companies. The accommodations on board the *Triton* were rather confined; but we felt ourselves in a paradise compared with our late situation in the *Hindostan*. The cabin was capable of containing but a small number of the officers: however, as the weather was fine, the rest were well contented to sleep on the deck, under the protection of an awning, to keep off the dews at night, which are very abundant in this climate.

Monday 30.

During the course of this day the ships were employed in endeavouring to warp out of the harbour; but the wind being unfavourable,

JULY,
Tuesday 1.

July 1800.



able, and blowing in fresh, they were obliged to come to for the night.

Wednesd. 2. At an early hour of this morning the signal was made for getting under weigh : a considerable time, however, elapsed before we got clear of the harbour, as the vessels were warped out from either shore ; so that several of them ran foul of each other, by which accidents some slight damage was occasioned.

At ten o'clock we had the satisfaction of getting clear of the harbour, and were once more proceeding to our intended destination. In the evening the weather became calm, accompanied with lightning, whose flashes were uncommonly vivid.

Thursday 3,
on board the
Friton at sea.

The weather was very sultry, with little wind ; but we soon lost sight of Minorca. We however enjoyed all the comfort of a plentiful stock of provisions ; which, with the accession of Lord Craven's stores, and the culinary skill of his cook, enabled us to fare sumptuously every day.

Friday 4. From the strong wind that blew in the course of the night, we were so far separated from the *Hindostan* and the *Expedition*, that we could barely discern them in the morning. Towards the evening, the weather became more moderate.

The

The weather was pleasant with a fine breeze; but the *Triton* was obliged to shorten sail, to wait for the Commodore, the bad sailing of whose ship occasioned frequent delays. In the course of the evening the *Dover* and several of the convoy came up with us.

July 1800.

Saturday 5.

In the early part of this morning we discovered, though at a considerable distance, the island of Corsica; but the weather falling calm, we made very little progress. We however continued to approach the land, which appeared to consist of a chain of barren, rocky, lofty and inaccessible mountains. In the evening we sailed close along shore, and had a distinct view of several forts, and a church surrounded with a cluster of small houses. The weather was very oppressive, from the heat that prevailed, and the night was enlivened by continual lightning.

Sunday 6.

The weather continued as it had been for some days. This morning, at break of day, we saw a large fleet of merchantmen under the convoy of some Portuguese men of war: they were chiefly of the same nation, with some Sicilians from Leghorn, and bound for Minorca, Gibraltar, and Lisbon: they amounted to about forty sail. In the forenoon we saw Cape Corse, and in a short time Gorgono, and Elba, with other lesser islands. The former is known for its anchovy fishery: its only inhabitants are a few fishermen, who dispose of their cargoes at Leghorn. It is a very unproductive spot; though I could not learn that any attempts had been made

Monday 7.

July 1800. to cultivate it. The importance of Elba is too well known for me to give any sentiments on the subject. It is a very advantageous station, containing an excellent harbour, and very strong fortress. It has been again and again considered by the speculative politician: but my regards, I must own, were rather directed to it as a scene of British glory.

Tuesday 8. This morning a very heavy cannonade was heard, which was concluded to proceed from an engagement between the Austrian and French armies, as we were not more than nine or ten leagues from Leghorn. The little wind we had was not favourable to our progress.

Wednesd. 9. This morning about six o'clock, to the great joy of every one of us, a fine and favourable breeze sprung up, which soon brought us in sight of Leghorn. At ten we came to an anchor in the roads, where we found the *Minotaur*, Admiral Lord Keith's ship, the *Alexander*, Lord Nelson's ship, and a considerable number of other vessels. But our elated spirits were doomed to experience disappointment here, as had been the case in other places. In a short time after we had come to an anchor, General Doyle's Brigade Major came on board, and astonished us with the information, that in consequence of an armistice having been concluded between the Austrians and French in Italy, and of the change which had taken place in the affairs of that country, Sir Ralph Abercromby had sailed from hence directly
for

for Malta, in the *Sea Horse* frigate, leaving orders for the 48th regiment to follow him without delay. The 18th and 90th regiments were at the same time ordered back to Minorca. Thus did we appear, at least, to traverse the Mediterranean, without any fixed or determined object. One advantage, however, was derived from this erratic campaign; that our army kept the enemy in continual dread and apprehension along every part of their coast, and consequently obliged them to detach large bodies of their troops to the frontiers to watch our motions, as well as to be prepared for them; and we have greatly to regret that this circumstance did not prove more fortunate for our allies.

From every information and opinion I could obtain, and my inquiries were very active on the subject, it appeared to me that if the Austrians had rallied their spirits and made another effort, after the battle of Marengo, they would have been finally successful. For our army of observation, as they termed it, had been magnified in Italy to thirty thousand men.

Several of the officers went on shore to dinner, at the moment when all the ships were manned to receive the Queen of Naples, whom Admiral Lord Nelson was going to conduct on board his Britannic Majesty's ship the *Alexander*, to her own capital. A royal salute was fired from all the ships, and several bands of music continued playing for some time. Indeed, the whole formed a very
F pleasing

July 1800:

pleasing spectacle. It was the discharge of cannon on her Majesty going on shore the preceding evening that we mistook for the accompaniments of a battle.

On our landing we found the gates of the city shut against us, the French being at Lucca, a distance of little more than twenty miles. When at length we were admitted within the walls, we found the streets crowded with people. All was commotion and disorder, and the town bore the appearance of a place that was about to be stormed by an enemy. The inhabitants, alarmed at the near approach of the French, forcibly entered the garrison, and took out upwards of twenty thousand stand of arms from the arsenal, to defend themselves against the enormities which they expected from the French, whom they execrated for their former atrocious conduct towards them. However, all this vapouring and vaunting, when their enemies were at a distance, and their friends at hand, in a short time terminated in a second disgraceful surrender of the place. If the courage of the Italians was equal to their grimace, they would be the bravest troops in the world.

In our short ramble through this city we could observe little more than that the houses were very lofty, some of which reach to eight or nine stories, and the streets very narrow. The Cathedral appeared to be a very fine structure, and the inside decorated with great magnificence. The Exchange is a very handsome building, and

and forms part of a square where the merchants meet to transact business. Here was a guard of Austrian soldiers, who did not answer the notion I had entertained of the troops in the Imperial service. In the evening we returned on board.

July 1800.

The ship's company was employed in getting water, which gave us an opportunity of paying another visit to Leghorn. Our first battalion was peculiarly unfortunate, as the *Hindostan*, having boarded an Algerine on her passage, was immediately on her arrival ordered to perform quarantine.

Thursday 10.
Triton, L.G.
HORN roads.

This morning, at eight o'clock, a signal was made for the whole of the ships having troops on board to get under weigh, though we had not finished watering. In this condition, however, we were obliged to put to sea: The reason assigned for this sudden order, was the armistice which had taken place in Italy between the Austrians and the French, and it was feared that the appearance of so large a force in a neutral port might excite suspicion, and be construed by the French as a violation of the armistice itself.

Friday 11.

The weather was very hot and sultry, with scarce a breath of wind, so that we got this day no more than three leagues from the Mole, and had as little motion as if we had been lying at anchor.

Saturday 12.
Triton off
Leghorn
roads.

This day a soldier had the misfortune to fall overboard, when

July 1800.

one of his comrades threw himself into the sea, in order to save him: though the vessel was making some way through the water, he contrived to reach the drowning person with a rope; when the poor man ceasing, or perhaps unable, to exert any efforts of his own, appeared to be altogether lifeless at the time he was hauled alongside the ship. I mention this circumstance, in justice to that admirable institution, the Humane Society, which cannot be too much applauded or encouraged; because, by employing the means laid down in their directions, this person in about half an hour gave signs of life, was, by proper care and attention, gradually recovered, and the next day was capable of returning to his duty.

Sunday 13.
Triton,
at sea.

We now lost sight of Leghorn; the weather continuing to be very warm, with a gentle breeze. In the forenoon we came close off Gorgona, when the opportunity was taken of sending a boat to procure some water. Major, now Lieutenant Colonel, Jackson, took this opportunity to visit the place, and returned in about three hours, though not till several signal guns had been fired: he brought with him from the island not only fish but flesh, and his anchovies were accompanied with the more solid purchase of a large calf. In consequence of this delay, the *Triton* was left so far behind the rest of the squadron, that the Commodore ordered the *Pegasus* down to know the reason of our tardy sailing.

Several days were now passed in tedious uniformity: the weather
8 was

was very hot, and dead calms were very frequent, and nothing occurred, but an order from the Commodore to take a very slow sailing transport in tow. To relieve us, however, from this trial of our patience, a breeze sprung up on the morning of Saturday the 19th; but, unfortunately, it caused the vessel to labour very much; and the wind increasing, was accompanied with an heavy swell. This circumstance introduced a considerable degree of sickness in the cabin, which was not altogether considered as an unfortunate circumstance, for the very diminished state of our stock.

July 1800.

Saturday 19.

The wind freshened considerably, and in the early part of this morning it blew a heavy gale from the north-east. At six *a. m.* we once more discovered the island of Minorca, which may be supposed to be a very pleasant sight to people in our confined state, and whose nature, as soldiers, is so congenial to terra firma. At three o'clock *p. m.* we came close under the land, the wind blowing from the north, which was right out of the harbour, so that it would have been a dangerous experiment to have attempted to enter it, as there was a great running sea, accompanied with an heavy swell. We therefore lay to under shelter of the land, with the rest of the fleet, except the *Expedition* and the *Pegasus*, who contrived to get into the harbour, but not without some damage; the former having got on shore, and the latter having her jib-boom carried away.

Monday 21.

Captain Collart of the *Vestal* came on board the *Triton* in the evening

July 1800. evening to pay a visit to Lord Craven, and informed us, that, since our departure, a fleet had arrived in Mahon harbour from England, with four thousand troops on board, to join the army commanded by Sir Ralph Abercromby. This formidable addition to our force consisted of the 2d or Queen's regiment, the two battalions of the 20th, with the 36th, 82d, and 92d regiments, none of whom were disembarked.

Tuesday 22. In the course of the afternoon, we came to anchor once more in Mahon harbour, after a very unpleasant passage of eight days from Leghorn, which was owing to the very hot weather and frequent calms.

Wednesd. 23. The second battalion of the 40th landed this morning at the Lazaretto quay, and were marched into the barracks lately occupied by the ancient Irish fencibles, who had been removed during our absence to Alliore. We found the 42d regiment at George Town, having left their former quarters on receiving orders to embark.

Thursday 24. Such was the unexpected accession of naval and military visitors to the island, that the price of every article of life advanced into immediate exorbitance. So great was the prevailing scarcity, that it became a necessary measure to regulate the disposal of provisions according to the numbers which formed the respective messes. At six in the morning

morning the proportion of every article was delivered to those who demanded them; and no one could be supplied for the day after that hour. This judicious arrangement was attended with the most salutary effects, in the crowded state of the island, as both officers and men obtained their fair proportion of every article which the markets produced. Grapes being in season, and in great abundance, were proportionably cheap, and afforded a most refreshing addition to our repasts. The first battalion of the 40th was landed this morning, and quartered in temporary sheds erected for the purpose, as the barracks were not sufficiently commodious to contain the whole regiment.

July 1800.

In this state we remained till the anxiety natural to our situation was in a great degree removed this evening, by the arrival of the *Sea Horse*, with Sir Ralph Abercromby and his suite. At the same time we could not but be sensible that the season for military operations was very far advanced, without the appearance of any determinate object. Saturday 26.

We this morning learned, with great regret, that our departure from hence would suffer a considerable delay, as no operations would be undertaken till Sir Ralph Abercromby had received answers to the dispatches which he had forwarded to England. This circumstance fully convinced us, that whatever might have been the original plans of our service, the unfortunate change which had taken place Sunday 27.

July 1800. place in the affairs of Italy had entirely frustrated them: so that fresh instructions appeared to be necessary from our government at home to form and direct any future plan of operations.

This interval, however, was employed by the Commander in paying that vigilant attention to the state, discipline, and comfort of the troops under his command, which formed such a prominent feature in his illustrious character. He accordingly directed that sheds might be fitted up for the accommodation of the troops that were still on board the ships in the harbour, in order that they might be landed for a short time to refresh themselves after such a long and painful confinement. He also ordered the army to be divided into brigades, according to the following arrangement:

The first division consisted of the brigades under the command of Major-General the Honourable Hely (now Lord) Hutchinson.

FIRST BRIGADE,

Second or Queen's regiment	}	Commanded by Brigadier-General Doyle.
Eighteenth or Royal Irish		
Twentieth, two battalions		

SECOND BRIGADE,

Fortieth regiment, two battalions	}	Commanded by Colonel Lord Craven.
Eighty-second regiment.		

The

The second division, under the command of Major-General Moore, July 1800.
consisted also of two brigades :

Forty-second regiment or Royal Highlanders Ninetieth regiment De Rolls Swiss regiment	}	Commanded by Brigadier- General Oakes.
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Twenty-eighth regiment Thirty-sixth regiment Ninety-second, or Gordon High- landers	}	Commanded by the Honourable Colonel Paget.
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“ His Excellency the Commander in Chief directs, that Major-Generals above-mentioned will be pleased to take immediate charge of and inspect the whole of the troops ; as will the Brigadier-Generals Doyle and Oakes, and Colonels Lord Craven and Paget, of such regiments as compose their respective brigades.”

From this period nothing occurred worthy of particular attention till the 9th of August, the interval being, in a great measure, employed by the different Generals and Officers commanding brigades, in preparing them for the review of the Commander in Chief, who was himself occupied in examining the troops in the more remote parts of the island, in order to ascertain the service for which

G

they

July 1800. they were best qualified, previous to his final arrangement of the army. The troops were daily practised in the more useful manœuvres for actual service till the 9th of August, when the Commander in Chief commenced his inspection of the first division of the army, committed to the care of Major-General Hutchinson, now Lord Hutchinson.

General orders are of too much consequence in the government and disposal of an army to be omitted in an history of it. I shall now, therefore, begin with the first issued by Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Abercromby, and continue them in the order wherein they were published.

GENERAL ORDERS.

" Mahon, Friday Aug. 8, 1800.

AUGUST. " All memorials and recommendations for promotion are to be
Friday 8. transmitted to Lieutenant-Colonel Kemp, secretary to the Commander in Chief. The regiments and corps will, as soon as possible, send to him a return of all vacant commissions, specifying whether with or without purchase.—The Queen's regiment will disembark to-morrow afternoon, at three o'clock, and march into quarters at present occupied by De Rolls regiment."

Saturday 9. This day the Commander in Chief reviewed the brigade under the command of Colonel Lord Craven, and the regimental orders
issued


issued on that occasion will manifest his estimation of the re- August 1800.
giment.

“The commanding officer has the pleasure of acquainting the Sunday 10.
battalion with the high satisfaction expressed by his Excellency the
Commander in Chief at the appearance of the battalion yesterday
evening. The handsome manner in which he spoke of their clean-
liness, uniformity and steadiness under arms, will, it is hoped,
excite a spirit of emulation in the men, which cannot fail of being
attended with equal comfort and credit to themselves and officers.”

This morning Admiral Lord Keith arrived in the harbour from
Leghorn, in his Majesty's ship the *Minotaur*: She saluted with
seventeen guns on coming to anchor.

Lord Keith shifted his flag this morning from the *Minotaur* to Monday 11.
the *Foudroyant*, then laying close to the dock, where she was in a
state of repair. The extreme heat of weather still prevailed.

The interval till the 25th was altogether employed by the per-
sonal attention of the Commander in Chief to the state of the
troops; while the latter were continually perfecting themselves in
those evolutions, which it was generally expected and desired that
they would be called upon to employ in actual service. During
the same period the following orders were successively issued.

August 1800.


GENERAL ORDERS.

“ Mahon, Sunday Aug. 10, 1800.

“ The Commander in Chief will inspect the 50th and Minorca regiments to-morrow evening at half past five o'clock. Those regiments which have more flints and ammunition in their possession than will complete each man to sixty rounds and three flints, will deliver them in to Colonel Aliston, park of artillery, Fort George ; and those regiments that have not a sufficient quantity of ammunition or flints, are immediately to make application to be completed as above directed.”

GENERAL ORDERS,

“ Mahon, Monday Aug. 11, 1800.

“ As occasional field days will materially contribute to the health of the men, the Commander in Chief requests that the general officers commanding divisions will direct their brigades to be frequently assembled either regimentally or as brigades, and exercised at such hours as they may judge to be most convenient for that purpose. On these occasions they should be practised in performing with exactness and precision a few simple manœuvres ; and in order to accustom the soldiers to a free use of their arms, when encumbered with their necessaries, they ought, when ordered to fire with blank cartridges, sometimes to parade in full marching order.

“ Sir

“ Sir Ralph Abercromby desires that those regiments, which are Aug. 1800.
 at present provided only with Russia check trowsers, may, as soon
 as possible, be furnished with either woollen breeches or trowsers.
 He does not restrict the commanding officer in the choice of the
 colour, but he expects that each regiment will, in that respect, pre-
 serve an exact uniformity. The Commander in Chief will inspect
 the 8th regiment to-morrow forenoon at ten o'clock, at Fort George,
 and the 92d regiment at George Town.”

BRIGADE ORDERS.

“ Colonel Lord Craven will inspect the 82d regiment on the gar-
 rison parade to-morrow evening at half past six o'clock. The re-
 giment will parade in full marching order.”

“ *Mahon, August 12, 1800.*

“ The Commander in Chief will inspect the Queen's second and Tuesday 12.
 De Rolls regiments to-morrow forenoon at ten o'clock, on the pa-
 rade in the town of Mahon.”

“ *Mahon, August 13, 1800.*

“ The Commander in Chief has observed that the soldiers of Wednesd. 13.
 many of the regiments, under his immediate command, are ex-
 tremely remiss in the respect due from them to the officers; he de-
 sires that the commanding officers of regiments will fully explain
 to the men the compliments that are due to officers of different
 ranks,

Aug. 1800. ranks, both when they are on and off duty; and to assure them that any soldier hereafter found negligent of this part of their duty, will be confined and punished for disobedience of orders."

" *Mahon, August 14, 1800.*

Thursday 14. " The Commander in Chief will inspect the 82d regiment to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock, at the Lazaretto."

" Sir Ralph Abercromby desires the following orders, dated the 20th of October 1798, by Sir Charles Stuart, may be strictly attended to: — Men, when in the general hospital, will be supplied by their corps with necessaries; and for that purpose each man will carry with him to the hospital, one clean shirt, one pair of trowsers, one pair of stockings, besides those in wear, and whatever flannel shirts they may have in possession."

" *Mahon, August 15, 1800.*

Friday 15. " It being found essential to limit the necessaries to be carried by the soldiers, in the event of the troops being sent on service, to a certain quantity, the Commander in Chief orders that no soldier shall carry more than the following articles, exclusive of what he has in wear, viz. one blanket, two shirts, one pair of shoes, two pair of socks, a razor, comb, brushes, blacking-ball, and soap. Those things are to be carried in the knapsack, and must be folded in the neatest and most complete manner. The great coat and
other

other necessities which, by the king's regulations, the soldier is to be provided with, must be packed in the company's arm-chest, or some other substitute provided for that purpose, and will be left with the heavy baggage of the regiment." Aug. 1800.

GENERAL ORDERS.

" *Mahon, August 16, 1800.*

" The Commander in Chief having finished the inspection of the troops near Mahon, has, in many particulars, sufficient reason to be satisfied with their appearance. Several of the regiments, however, ought still to be considered as newly raised. The greatest care and attention, therefore, are necessary ; and he has the fullest reliance on every officer, from the General to the Ensign, in the forming of troops so worthy of their care, whom they may command in action, and of whose conduct their own honour and the welfare of the public depends. The Commander in Chief has observed that, in many regiments, the band exceeds the number prescribed by the rules of the service; that non-commissioned officers are employed as musicians ; and that children unfit for any service are borne on the strength as privates. As nothing can have a more dangerous tendency than any deviation from what is perfectly correct, it is positively ordered, that no more than one private man from each company shall be taken for the band, and that one serjeant only, to act as master,

Aug. 1800. master, will be allowed. The sons of soldiers ought, certainly, when practicable, to be enlisted as drummers and fifers, but it is impossible to admit any such as privates.

“ Commanding officers of regiments will take the earliest opportunity of writing to their agents to forward the cloathing of their regiments as soon as possible; desiring them previously to take the precaution of informing themselves at the Duke of York’s office of the destination of their regiments.”

BRIGADE ORDERS.

“ *Mahon, August 19, 1800.*

Tuesday 19. “ Colonel Lord Craven desires that the officers commanding regiments of the 2d brigade will prevent their men from washing their clothes in the middle of the day, as nothing can be so injurious to the health of the men as being out in the great heat of the day, especially as he sees them up to their middle, in the sea, washing; but to appoint a time for that purpose, with proper officers to superintend the parties so employed.”

GENERAL ORDERS.

“ *Mahon, August 24, 1800.*

Sunday 24. “ Sir Ralph Abercromby directs that the troops serving in the Mediterranean, under his command, shall receive Tuscan dollars, at the

the rate of four shillings and nine-pence per dollar, being equal to August 1800.
ten reals, ten doubler currency.

“ The surgeons of regiments will, on the first of every month, transmit to the inspectors of hospitals a monthly return of their sick.”

At an early hour this morning the *Termagant* sloop arrived Monday 25.
in Mahon harbour from England, after a passage of twenty days. She brought the dispatches which had been so anxiously expected, and were to direct our future destination. Major General Craddock and Brigadier General Mackenzie, with their aid-de-camps, arrived in this vessel.

On the following day it was given out in general orders, that his Tuesday 26.
Majesty has been pleased to place Major-General Craddock on the Staff of the Army serving in the Mediterranean, and to advance Colonel Mackenzie, of the 36th regiment of infantry, to the rank of Brigadier General.

The orders issued this day by the Commander in Chief, settled the disposition of the army in the following manner :

“ The under-mentioned regiments are to compose the garrison of Minorca, viz.

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The

August 1800.

The seventeenth regiment, first and second battalions.

Twentieth ditto, ditto.

The thirty-sixth ditto.

The eighty-second ditto, and the Ancient Irish fencibles.

Brigadier General Mackenzie is to remain at Minorca.

“ The following regiments are to hold themselves in readiness to embark at the shortest notice, carrying with them their camp equipage and heavy baggage :

The second or Queen's,

The eighth,

The eighteenth,

The twenty-eighth,

The fortieth, first and second battalions,

The forty-second,

The fiftieth,

The fifty-eighth,

The ninetieth,

The ninety-second,

The Minorca,

De Rolle's,

Dillon's, and

The Corsican regiment.

“ Majors

“ Majors Generals Hutchinson, Craddock, and Moore, and the Brigadier Generals Doyle, Stuart, and Oakes, are attached to the troops under orders for service. The sick who are not able to embark with their regiments, will be taken into the general hospital here; but they are to remain in their present hospital, under the care of their own surgeons, till further orders. August 1800.

“ The Lieutenant Governor will be pleased to order the light companies of the 8th, 50th, and Minorca regiments, to join their respective corps as soon as possible. The 58th regiment will remain at Alliore, till it is ordered to march to Mahon. A return to be given in, with all possible expedition, of the camp equipage in possession, and wanting to complete the following regiments, viz. —The 8th, 50th, 58th, De Rolle's, Dillon's, and Minorca regiments.

“ Doctor Bancroft, physician to the forces, and Doctor Dixon, purveyor, are attached to the army serving in the Mediterranean.”

We were busily employed in making every necessary arrangement previous to our embarkation, which was ordered for the following day. Wednesd. 27.

In consequence of the arrival of General Craddock, it was necessary to form a new arrangement of the brigades.

August 1800.

The first brigade, under the command of Major-General Craddock, was ordered to consist of the following regiments :

The eighteenth,
The fortieth, first and second battalions, and
The ninetieth.

The second brigade, under the command of Brigadier General Doyle, was ordered to consist of the following regiments :

The second or Queen's,
The eighth, and
The ninety-second.

The third brigade, under the command of Brigadier General Stuart, was ordered to consist of the following regiments :

The Minorca regiment.
De Rolle's do.
Dillon's do.

The reserve, under the command of Major General Moore, was ordered to consist of the following regiments :

The twenty-eighth,
The forty-second,

The

The fiftieth,

The fifty-eighth,

The detachment of the eleventh light dragoons, and

The Corsican Rangers.

Brigadier General Oakes was also attached to the reserve.

Major General Hutchinson was also appointed second in command of the army.

August 1800.

By the same general orders, the following arrangement of the shipping was made for the embarkation of the army :

FIRST BRIGADE.

REGIMENTS.	SHIPS.	NUMBER OF MEN.
The 18th	<i>Dover</i>	571
First batt. of the 40th	<i>Adventure</i>	520
Ditto	<i>Vestal</i>	205
Second batt. of do.	<i>Foudroyant</i>	215
Ditto	<i>Lion</i>	215
Ditto	<i>Caroline</i>	113
Ditto	<i>Thalia</i>	110
The 90th	<i>Ceres</i>	50
Ditto	<i>Vestal</i>	330
Ditto	<i>Expedition</i>	508

Total of the first brigade..... 2837

SECOND.

JOURNAL OF THE

August 1809.

SECOND BRIGADE.

REGIMENTS.	SHIPS.	NUMBER OF MEN.
The 2d or Queen's	<i>Europa</i>	597
The 8th	<i>Diadem</i>	610
Detachment of the 11th light dragoons	} <i>Ditto</i>	65
The 92d		
	<i>Stately</i>	694
Total of the second brigade		1966

THIRD BRIGADE.

The Minorca regiment.....	<i>Roebuck</i>	563
Ditto.....	<i>Cybele</i> transport	168
Ditto	<i>Wrést</i>	184
Ditto	<i>Anne</i>	212
Dillon's ..	<i>Regulus</i>	578
De Rolle's.....	<i>Wakefield</i> transport..	235
Ditto	<i>Betsy</i>	200
Ditto	<i>Telemachus</i>	179
Ditto.....	<i>Fanny</i>	53

Total of the 3d brigade 2277

THE RESERVE.

The 28th	<i>Winchelsea</i>	300
Ditto	<i>Druid</i>	300

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

55

REGIMENTS.	SHIPS.	NUMBER OF MEN.	August 1800.
The 28th	<i>Blonde</i>	151	<u>August 1800.</u>
The 42nd	<i>Wassenaer</i>	752	
Ditto	<i>Inconstant</i>	400	
The 50th	<i>Blonde</i>	111	
Ditto	<i>Thisbe</i>	250	
Ditto	<i>Alligator</i>	250	
The 58th	<i>Ulysses</i>	575	
Rangers.....	<i>Argo</i>	240	

Total of the reserve 3320

Total of the army, exclusive of the artillery, engineers, and hospital staff, &c. who were embarked for the expedition.—

First brigade.....	2837
Second ditto.....	1966
Third ditto	2277
The reserve	3320

Total 10,409

GENERAL ORDERS continued.

“ The general officers and their suite will embark on board any of the ships belonging to their brigade, most convenient for themselves.

“ The

August 1800.

" The following regiments will embark to-morrow morning, precisely at six o'clock, from their present quarters, viz. the 8th, 18th, 28th, 40th, first and second battalion, and 90th regiments. The sick belonging to those that cannot embark to be sent to the general hospital at Mahon to-morrow evening. Application to be made this day to the quarter-master general's department, for the number of mules which will be required for this purpose. As there is not a sufficient quantity of shipping to admit of the women embarking, it is the Commander in Chief's most positive orders, that no woman or child shall embark on this occasion ; but, at the same time, they have his assurance, that the greatest care shall be taken of them, both now and hereafter. Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas, of the 58th regiment, is to remain at Minorca, in the command of all persons belonging to the army that may be left here. One captain and two subalterns from each brigade, and a steady serjeant from each regiment or corps, to be left with him. The names of the officers ordered for this duty to be sent to the adjutant-general's office before eleven o'clock to-morrow forenoon.

" The Commander in Chief desires that the regiments, when they are ordered to embark, shall deliver over all the boards, tressels, &c. that they have received from the quarter-master general and engineer departments. Should no person be immediately on the spot to receive them, a steady non-commissioned officer must be left."

The

The most active preparations were made for our departure, but ^{August 1800.} to what place, or on what service, no reasonable conjecture could ^{Friday 29.} be formed from any circumstance that took place on the occasion.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Mahan, Aug. 30, 1800.

“Sir Ralph Abercromby cannot leave this island without expressing the high sense he entertains of the great attention which the Lieutenant Governor has shewn to himself and the troops under his command, in the arrangements which he has made for their accommodation during their residence here. Saturday 30.

“All officers are to repair on board their respective ships this evening, and none are afterwards to come on shore.

“His Excellency the Commander in Chief is to embark on board his Majesty’s ship the *Diadem*.”

GENERAL MEMORANDUM.

“On Board his Majesty’s Ship the *Foudroyant*, Port Mahon,

“Aug. 30, 1800.

“The ships of the squadron to insert, with pencils only, in their signal-books, those which are underwritten.

No. 293. Major Generals and Brigadiers.

I

No. 294.

August 1806.

- No. 294. Heads of Departments.
295. Commanding Officers of regiments.
296. Brigade Majors.
297. Major-General Craddock.
298. Major-General Moore.
299. Brigadier-General Doyle.
300. Brigadier-General Oakes.
301. Brigadier-General Stuart.
302. Brigadier-General Lawson, artillery.
303. Chief Engineers.
304. Commissary General.
305. Inspector of Hospitals.
306. Brigade Major, first brigade.
307. Ditto, second ditto.
308. Ditto, third ditto.
309. Ditto, fourth ditto.
310. Ditto, fifth ditto.

“ By command of the Vice Admiral,

(Signed) P. BEAVER.”

CHAPTER

CHAPTER III.

The Fleet, with the Troops on Board, leave Minorca—Arrives off Gibraltar—Dearness of Provisions there—Motions of the Fleet—An Attack on the Spanish Gun-Boats—A Brig which the Gun-Boats had taken, recovered—Standing Orders from Admiral Lord Keith—General Orders of Sir Ralph Abercromby, respecting the projected Attack of Cadiz—Lord Craven's Regimental Orders—The Operations of the Fleet and Army on that Occasion—General Orders from the Admiral—Correspondence between the British Commanders in Chief and the Spanish Governor of Cadiz—The Fleet and Army stand in for Gibraltar Bay—Successive Circumstances of the Fleet, and its different Stations—Certain Regiments ordered to Portugal under the Command of Sir James Pulteney—The final Object of the Expedition declared—Successive Movements of the Fleet, &c.—The Hector, with the 2nd Battalion of the 40th Regiment on Board, ordered to Malta—After a very tempestuous Passage, arrives there.

THIS morning, to our great joy, a gun from the Admiral announced the order for sailing, and the whole fleet instantly made every effort to get under weigh and put to sea. The *Lion*, on running out of the harbour, got on shore near Fort Phillip, but was very soon got off again without sustaining any damage. The fleet lay-to for the greater part of the day, and kept hovering about till it was

August 1800.

Sunday 31.

On board the
Lion, MAHON
harbour.

August 1800.

dark, as it was supposed that the people on shore might not discover the track intended to be pursued : their anxious curiosity, however, would have obtained but a small portion of real information respecting the object of our expedition, if the shape of our course had been clearly discerned by them ; as not an individual in the fleet, except those who directed the course, had any solid ground of conjecture as to the termination of it. As reports had prevailed that the armistice had ceased in Italy, it was imagined by some that we were to return to Leghorn, others looked to the coast of Spain as our approaching scene of action ; and with these, as with other fanciful conjectures, we amused the tedious hours of our voyage, while time alone could unfold the impenetrable secret.

SEPTEMBER.
Monday 1.
Lion, at sea.

During the night we lost sight of the island of Minorca, and in the morning the whole fleet was steering a direct westerly course, the wind blowing pretty fresh from E. S. E. We fell in with a strange sail, which turned out to be a Swedish brig, bound for Leghorn.

Tuesday 2.

The weather was hazy, with strong breezes and a very heavy sea, accompanied with frequent and sudden squalls. The *Foudroyant* flag ship, and the *Diadem*, in which the Commander in Chief had taken his passage, crowded all their sail, and steered for Gibraltar, leaving the fleet to make the best of their way. About two o'clock in the afternoon we lost sight of both ships : the weather

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

61

ther continued very squally ; but we had every reason to be satisfied with our situation, as the officers exerted themselves to the utmost in order to accommodate those of the army : and I feel it but common justice to make this acknowledgement for their obliging and friendly attentions. Sept. 1800.

There was little variation in the weather : the wind, indeed, had increased with a heavy sea, and the ship was making twenty-four inches of water every hour ; so that the troops were frequently employed at the pumps. Wednesd. 9.

I this day was attacked with a very violent pain in my left side, which was accompanied with an alarming oppression on my breast, and difficulty of breathing. By repeated bleedings, the application of a large blister, and the attentive care of Mr. Young, the surgeon of the ship, to whose skill and kindness I acknowledge myself to be greatly indebted, I was, in ten days, restored to my former health. The Hon. Colonel Boyle, and several other officers, were attacked in a similar manner.

As nothing occurred during the remainder of our voyage to Gibraltar, I pass on to Sunday the 14th of this month, when at an early hour we had a view of the rock, and in the course of the morning came opposite to Europa Point, from which situation we saw the Sunday 14.

Sept. 1800.

Foudroyant, *Diadem*, and *Thalia* lying at anchor: we then stood in for the Bay, but, to the extreme mortification of every one on board, a signal appeared from the Admiral, ordering the fleet to keep out, which disappointed our hopes of visiting the celebrated fortress in our view, and enjoying the refreshments which we expected to find there. The fleet accordingly kept hovering about and laying-to for several hours: in the mean time, Captain Hammond, who ~~commanded~~ the *Lion*, went on board the Admiral for orders: his return was expected with great impatience, and afforded us equal satisfaction, as he brought the welcome intelligence that the fleet was ordered to come to an anchor in the Bay; and, in about two hours, we anchored opposite to the South Barracks; the new Mole being at about the distance of three quarters of a mile.

Monday 15.

I went on shore this morning, and enjoyed the agreeable surprise of meeting with many old friends, whom I little expected to find in this garrison. The town was crowded with officers both of the navy and army; and the prices of provisions so exorbitant that I can hardly venture to mention them. A moderate turkey fetched the enormous price of three doubloons, or ten pounds sixteen shillings sterling; eggs were a shilling each, and every other article in the same proportion. But the plenty of money will appear to have been equal to the scarcity of provisions, for whatever was offered to
sale

sale found ready customers. I had the pleasure of dining with Captain Henderson at the mess of the second Argyleshire regiment, and in the evening returned on board. Sept. 1800.

The *Lion* was now ordered to sail for England, in consequence of her leaky and disabled condition.

This day were issued the following general orders :

Tuesday 16.

*“Head-quarters on board his Majesty’s ship the Diadem,
Sept. 16, 1800.*

“As soon as the general officers have inspected their brigades, they will report the state of them to his Excellency the Commander in Chief. A field officer will inspect the hospital formed at the naval hospital, and report the same to Sir Ralph Abercromby.”

This morning the *Thalia* frigate sailed for England with dispatches from the Commander in Chief and a large convoy. Several gunboats came out from Algezira, in order to cut them off as they entered the Gut. The Admiral, therefore, made the signal to arm the boats and launches of the fleet for their protection; which operation had such an effect upon the Spaniards, that they sought an immediate shelter under their own batteries. A fine breeze springing up, the convoy set sail, and proceeded on their course without the least interruption.

Sept. 1800.
Wednesd. 17. Several ships of the fleet sailed to Tetuan Bay, on the coast of Barbary, to procure water. Spanish gun-boats were continually hovering about the Gut; but sheered off with the greatest expedition whenever any of our vessels attempted to approach them.

Thursday 18. Went on shore this morning to view the works of this celebrated fortress, and was highly gratified with the examination of them. After passing some time at the garrison, I dined with a party of officers of the same regiment with myself at the European Hotel, where we were in great comfort; and, considering the prevailing dearness of every kind of provision, we thought ourselves rather treated moderately on being charged no more than fifteen shillings each. Returned on board in the course of the evening.

Friday 19. At the dawn of day, the Admiral threw out a signal to man and arm the boats of the fleet, and to send them off to rescue a brig which had been attacked by the enemy's gun-boats, and was then in their possession. At the same time his Majesty's ship the *Lion*, and the *Mondovi* brig were ordered to get under weigh to cover the operations of the boats.

The batteries from the shore and nine gun-boats opened a very heavy cannonade on the boats of our fleet; but they had not the power to restrain the ardour and damp the intrepidity of our sailors, who boarded and retook the vessel. The wind having fallen quite off,

off, it became a dead calm, and the brig and all the boats sustained the enemy's fire for several hours. Sept. 1800.

The *Lion* beat to quarters and cleared ship for action, while boats a-head were towing her to get up with the Spanish gun-boats. The *Mondovi* and two of our gun-boats were also making every exertion for the same purpose; and about eleven they succeeded so far as to get within gun-shot of them. When our lower deckers began playing away on them, and the *Mondovi* attacked their headmost vessels, they thought it best, as usual, to decline the contest, leaving the active part of the business to the batteries, who kept up an heavy fire to very little purpose; their shot either going over or past us. On this occasion there were two men killed and four badly wounded, one of whom was a petty officer.

It is a peculiar circumstance, which I cannot pass by without observation, that this day was the anniversary of the bloody action fought in Holland, in which the 40th regiment so highly distinguished itself, and where the British army acquired so much glory, though, unfortunately, from various untoward and unexpected circumstances, it was not ultimately successful.

The brig, in whose service so much British bravery was displayed, was got safe off at noon. We then stood in for the Bay, having left

K

four

Sept. 1800.

four boats to tow in the brig, and about one o'clock came to anchor off the Ragged Staff, about a mile from the shore.

Saturday 20.

This morning at day-light we weighed anchor, and, in consequence of orders received from the Admiral the preceding evening, we set sail for Tetuan Bay, on the coast of Barbary, to take in water, and arrived there about two o'clock in the afternoon, where we found a considerable part of our fleet lying at anchor. At two in the afternoon we also came to anchor opposite the town of Tetuan, and about four miles from the shore. The boats were then hoisted and sent ashore to procure water.

Tuesday 23.

The three last days the ships company was employed in watering. At the same time all communication with the natives was strictly prohibited by order of Lord Keith, as the plague was then said to be raging among them. For this purpose, a party of marines and troops of the line were sent on shore to prevent an intercourse that might be attended with the most fatal consequences.

We weighed anchor as soon as it was day-light, and set sail for Gibraltar; but the weather being calm, we did not make the back of the Rock till the afternoon. The *Mondovi* was sent in chase of a privateer, and fired several shot to bring her to, but without effect; and as she got close in shore, where she was effectually protected

tected by the batteries, the *Mondovi* gave up the chase, and came to anchor in the course of the evening. Sept. 1800.

This morning a frigate arrived from Malta with the important intelligence of the surrender of that island to the British arms, after a blockade of two years. A royal salute was accordingly fired on the joyful occasion by the fleet and batteries on shore. Wednesday 24.

The *Lion* received orders to proceed immediately to England, and the battalion of the 40th regiment embarked the following day, on board his Majesty's ship the *Hector* of 74 guns, where we were received in the handsomest manner by all the officers, who seemed to contest the point of rendering us civilities, and promoting our accommodation. The *Lion* now set sail for England, with the account of the capture of Malta. Thursday 25.

The two preceding days were chiefly passed in mustering the seamen and troops on board the ships. This evening, however, we were encouraged to hope, that we should be relieved from our present disagreeable state of inactivity, as a signal was displayed from the Admiral to prohibit all officers from going ashore on any account whatever. Sunday 28.

The weather was calm and pleasant, and we this day saw the continual flashes of guns near the Barbary coast, but could not dis- Monday 29.

Sept. 1800.

cern any shipping, or hear any reports. It was concluded, however, that some of the gun-boats were attacking part of our convoy; our boats were, therefore, manned and armed, but after an absence of three hours, they returned without being able to reach the enemy, from their great distance; and as the flashes ceased, it was unnecessary to continue the pursuit.

We now set sail, and proceeded to Tetuan Bay, where we understood the fleet was to assemble, and it was very generally believed that our next object would be the attack of Cadiz. On our passage we boarded an American schooner from Malaga, bound to New York: and when we arrived in Tetuan Bay, we found a large part of the convoy. We came to an anchor, Cape Porquillo bearing N. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. three or four leagues, and Cape Tetuan S. W. three miles.

Tuesday 30. The weather was variable, with fresh gales, and squally. The launch was hoisted out, and the ship's company employed in watering.

OCTOBER.
Wednesday 1.

The weather continued squally, with an heavy sea. The ship's company were divided between painting the ship's side and watering. About noon, his Majesty's ship the *Ajax*, commanded by the Honourable Captain Cochrane, arrived in the Bay with a part of the convoy.

The

The following standing orders were issued by the Admiral, from Oct. 1800.
the *Foudroyant*, dated October 1, 1800 :

“ Whereas information has been received that several Spanish ships, laden with valuable cargoes from America, have lately arrived in the river Tagus, in company with a Portuguese convoy, protected by Portuguese vessels of war, and that the aforesaid Spanish vessels bore the colours of the Portuguese nation till every danger of interruption was past; the Captains and Commanders of his Majesty's ships and vessels are directed to examine most strictly all homeward bound Portuguese convoys which they may hereafter fall in with, in order to discover whether any of the property of his Majesty's enemies is again attempted to be disguised and transported under their protection. Every caution is, at the same time, to be used to avoid giving offence to the Portuguese officer who has charge of the convoy, which may be compatible with the due execution of this instruction : the Commander in Chief being perfectly inclined to shew all possible respect to her most Faithful Majesty, as an ally of Great Britain; but bound at the same time by duty to counteract and defeat the intrigues and devices of the enemy, under whatever disguise they are attempted to be carried into effect.”

The weather was this morning moderate and clear, when we Thursday 2.
weighed anchor about ten *a. m.* and, having fine light breezes, at
half

Oct. 1800. half past seven *p. m.* we came to an anchor in Gibraltar Bay, in forty fathom water, where we found his Majesty's ship *Foudroyant*.

Friday 3. The fleet, consisting of upwards of 200 sail, with the army on board, came to an anchor about four leagues from Cadiz.

Saturday 4. The following general orders were issued by his Excellency the Commander in Chief, from on board his Majesty's ship the *Foudroyant*, off Cadiz:

“ The army under the command of General Sir Ralph Abercromby will form by wings. The right will consist of the Brigade of Guards. The first brigade under Major-General Craddock; the second under Brigadier-General Doyle; the third under Brigadier-General Stuart; and the reserve under Major-General Moore. Major-General Hutchinson will take charge of the right wing. The left wing will consist of the first brigade under Major-General Manners; the second under Major-General Coote; the third under Major-General the Earl of Cavan; the fourth under Brigadier-General Fisher; and the reserve under Brigadier-General Maitland. Major-General Morshead will have no brigade, but will take charge of the left wing. Major-General Manners will command the brigade late Morshead, and Brigadier-General Fisher will take the command of the three battalions of the 9th, now under the command of Major-General Manners.

The line will be formed according to the seniority of regiments from right and left to the centre. The senior brigades to the right will form the right to the centre of the line, and the senior brigades of the left from the left to the centre of the line. The reserves, under Brigadier-Major-General Moore and Brigadier-General Maitland, will form in the rear of their respective wings. One or more brigades, or even the whole left wing, will occasionally be ordered to form in the second line. Lieutenant-General Sir James Pulteney will take charge of the whole line. Oct. 1800.

“ The following rules are to be observed on landing :

“ When the troops are ordered to land, they will carry with them three days' bread and pork, and one day's rum and water, with their packs, blankets, and hatchets. The Commander in Chief regrets that, in the first instance, he can afford no accommodation to the officers for baggage or provisions. When the troops are ordered to embark on board the flat boats, they will be formed by companies on the quarter deck, and will go into them by filing off by ranks; the first rank first, and will hand their firelocks to men who will be placed on the sides, which will be handed to them as soon as they are in the boats. Each man will take his place as he is ordered: the strictest silence must be observed, and no man, on any account, to load. As soon as the boat strikes the ground, the men in the bow will leap out, and the rest will follow. The companies

Oct. 1800.

panies will immediately form and join in battalion ; each regiment to carry their camp colours in the bow of their boats, and plant them on shore when landed. Each regiment, after landing, will immediately send picquets and patrols to their front. The Commanding Officers of artillery will, as soon as the orders for landing are given, embark on board boats which will be ordered for that purpose. Such brigades of artillery, light or heavy, as shall be decided, will likewise have musquet cartridges ready to land, and hand carts to carry them, till another mode of conveyance can be found.

“ The chief Engineer will order a proportion of entrenching tools to accompany the first troops that land. The inspector of the hospitals will order detachments of the medical staff to land with medicines, &c. which will accompany the troops. The sick, left on board the ships of war, will be taken care of by the surgeons of the ships. A surgeon's mate of those regiments embarked on board transports will be left to take charge of any sick there, and, if necessary, they may be collected into one ship.

“ The surgeons of regiments, with their assistants and portable medicine chests, will be in the rear of their respective regiments.

“ Commanding Officers will acquaint the men that the Commander in Chief is determined to punish, with instant death, any
man

Oct. 1800.

man who shall quit his ranks in search of plunder, or shall at any time be found marauding. This notification equally applies to all followers of the army; and he forewarns them of this his most solemn determination. The strictest silence and most perfect order to be observed by the troops. If it should be found necessary to destroy public buildings; churches, convents, and hospitals must be protected; and all private property to be considered as sacred. Should any magazines of powder, fixed ammunition, or laboratories, fall in our way, guards must be immediately placed over them, to prevent accidents; and no individual whatever, who is not found in arms, to be molested.

“ All horses or mules with waggons, carts or carriages, which may fall into our hands, will be sent into the rear, for transporting the sick or wounded, in the first instance, and afterwards for the artillery, and also for mounting the 11th light dragoons; and no officer can be permitted to purchase either horses or mules till permission shall be granted to that effect: and it must be strictly enjoined by Generals commanding brigades, commanding officers of regiments, and by persons in every department, that soldiers sent away with the sick or wounded, or for any other purpose, shall be ordered immediately to join their respective corps as soon as the service on which they were sent is performed.

“ An officer of the navy will be posted on shore to convey to the

L

Admiral,

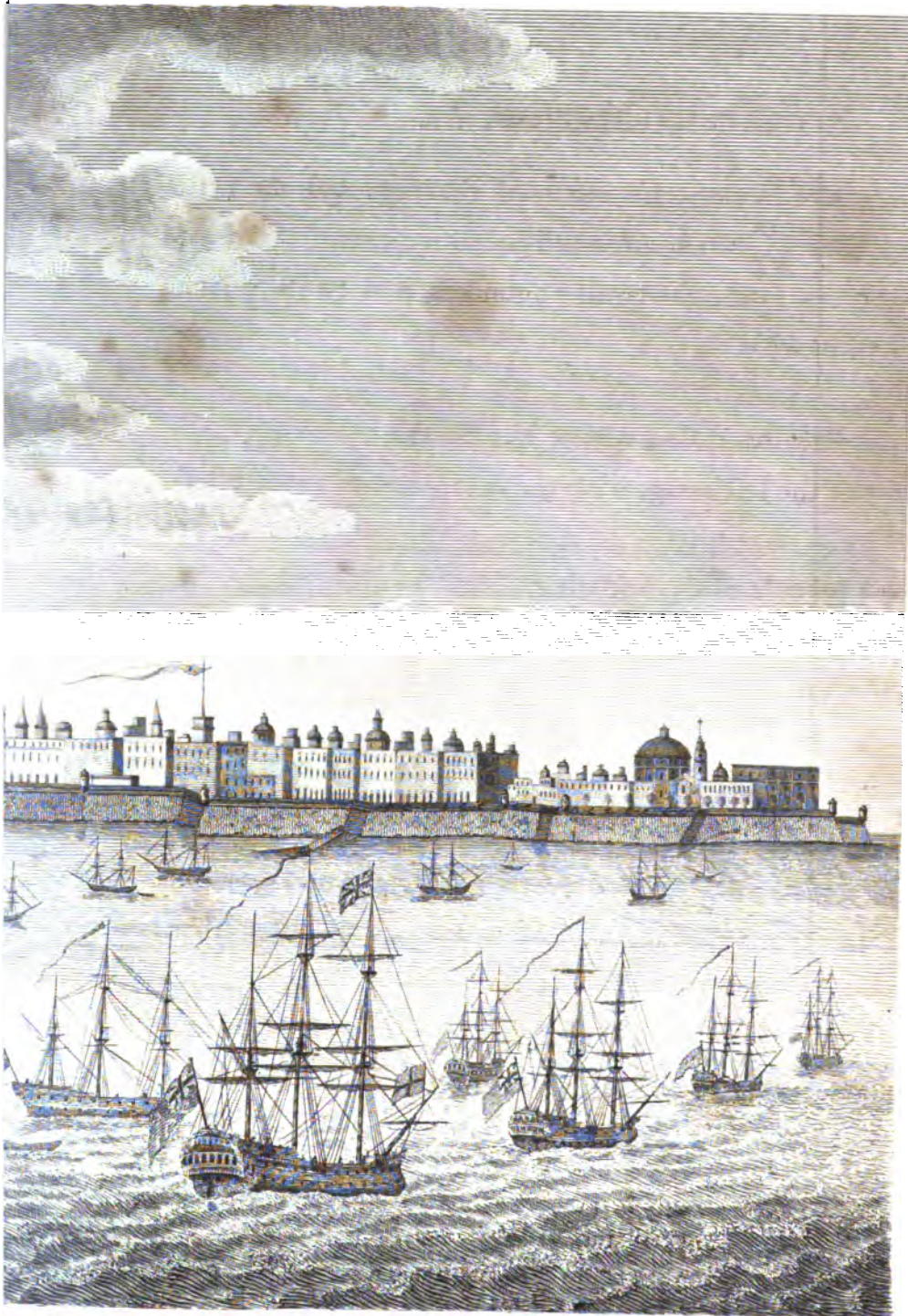
Oct. 1800.

Admiral, by signal, such intelligence as shall be necessary, and to require such assistance as may be wanted, agreeable to the signals which shall be established by Lord Keith. This officer to receive directions only from the Commander in Chief, through an officer of the Adjutant-general, or Quarter-master-general's department, or by his own aids-de-camp. Although the nature of the service, in which the troops are to be engaged, will render it impossible for them to encamp in the first instance, nevertheless, the ground upon which they are to form will be regularly marked out in the same manner as if the camp had been pitched; and commanding officers will be held responsible, that any huts or other covering which the men may build for themselves, are contiguous to the ground of formation, so that, at all times, it may be taken up without confusion or delay.

“ The officers must at all times remain with their men.

“ The army to be in readiness to land at a moment's order.—It will disembark in the following order :

- 1 Major General Moore with the reserve of the right wing.
- 2 Major General Ludlow with the brigade of guards.
- 3 Major General Craddock with the first brigade right wing.
- 4 Brigadier General Doyle with the second brigade right wing.
- 5 Brigadier General Stuart with the third brigade right wing.
6. Detach-



Warner, sculp

U. S. S. Hector then at Anchor distant 5 Miles

6 Detachments of Homspech's mounted riflemen, and the 11th light dragoons with their arms and accoutrements. Oct. 1800.

Ten six pounders, four light twelve pounders, and two five inch and an half howitzers.

" The second disembarkation will be as follows :

- 1 Reserve of the left wing, with the detachments of the Staff-corps.
- 2 The 4th brigade of the left wing.
- 3 The 3d do. do.
- 4 The 2d do. do.
- 5 The 1st do. do.

" The troop-ships and transports will be arranged as much as possible by brigades. The flat boats of each regiment and brigade to assemble as close together as possible, and to push on shore together. Boats for the artillery will be sent early to Brigadier General Lawson, that the artillery may be able to land nearly as soon as the troops have made good their landing. Two or three boats with entrenching tools to follow the reserve.

" Captain Farquharson of the 42d regiment is appointed Major of Brigade to the Forces, vice Captain Baldwin, who resigns, and is attached to the fourth brigade, left wing, till further orders.

" Brigade Major Hall is removed to the first brigade left wing."

JOURNAL OF THE

BRIGADE ORDERS.

"Dated on board his Majesty's ship Hector, Oct. 4, 1800.

Oct. 1800.

"In pursuance of his Excellency the Commander in Chief's orders, relative to the situation of the brigades of the right wing, that they should form by seniority from the right to the left of the reserve and the guards, on their landing; the naval arrangements have taken place accordingly: and further, it is so disposed, that the regiments of the first brigade will land by seniority from right to left, viz. the 18th regiment, 1st battalion of the 40th, 2d battalion of the 40th, and the 90th, of which the commanding officers are requested to take notice, and form accordingly, as soon as circumstances will permit. As soon as the regiments are collected, and it is practicable, each corps will form a piquet of a captain of 50 men, ready to move forward on any emergency, as an advanced party or a patrol.

"Upon all occasions Major General Craddock will endeavour to order such piquets and patrols as may answer for the security of the whole brigade: but whenever a want may arise from the difficulty of communication, the commanding officers of regiments are requested to take this measure upon themselves, and are charged with their respective arrangements upon this head.

"After

“ After the orders which his Excellency the Commander in Chief has been pleased to issue upon the violation of discipline, and especially upon the subject of plunder and marauding, Major-General Craddock thinks it necessary only to explain, that this punishment will not await the orders of the Commander in Chief, but will instantly follow the offence ; and the commanding officers of regiments are called upon to act in the most summary manner, and put an end to practices which, if they exist, are incompatible with success.” Oct. 1806.

Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Craven also issued the following orders, addressed to me, who had the honour of commanding his Lordship's company.

“ On account of the uncertainty of being able to circulate orders by the usual method of the orderly book, on the landing of the regiment, I take this method of making my wishes known respecting the officers commanding companies, &c.

“ When the regiment lands, the Majors will each take a wing under his particular care ; Lieutenant-Colonel Kemmiss the right, and Major Jackson the left ; Lieutenant-Colonel Clay will be with me. Every officer commanding a company, will consider himself responsible for the conduct of the men of that company, and be very particular in preventing them from leaving their ranks on any pretext

Oct. 1800.

text whatever; and will act with the greatest rigour against any man committing the smallest act of depredation, and on no account to let a man go into an house when the regiment halts: and the men are not to be allowed to fall out, unless the house is allotted to them as quarters, as well as to prevent them from making away with kettles, canteens, or any other thing belonging to them. As the men are to have three days provision with them, officers commanding companies will use their utmost endeavours to confine the men to their daily allowance, and to prevent their exceeding it.

"CRAVEN."

Sunday 5.
Hector, off
Cadiz.

At half past nine o'clock this morning there was an heavy cannonade from the shore, against some of the boats from the fleet, which had been sent to reconnoitre and take soundings. At noon, the gun-boat which we had in charge was ordered, with the rest of the gun-boats, and the launches of the fleet, to rendezvous with the *Ajax*; which occasioned an expectation that the troops would require immediate orders to land; the gun-boats also having previously got their guns on board, and the other vessels having been armed with carronades, swivels, and small arms. About one o'clock two guns were fired from Cadiz, and a boat sent out with a flag of truce, on observing our formidable armament. In the mean time every arrangement was making to land. At two o'clock all boats on board were hoisted out preparatory to the disembarkation.

barkation. The flag of truce was obliged to be towed by the *Niger* up to the Admiral's ship. Oct. 1800.

About six o'clock this morning a signal was given by the Admiral, Monday 6. for the ships having the reserve, guards, artillery, and first brigade on board, to get under weigh. Several signals were fired during the forenoon, and at eleven o'clock a general signal was made to the whole fleet for landing, and the flat-bottomed boats were ordered to take General Moore's-brigade, (the reserve,) and General Ludlow's brigade of the guards, and General Craddock's first brigade. The *Hector* was, at the same time, cleared for action, and every preparation made for effectually covering the landing. The gun-boats and light vessels, together with the launches, had previously taken their stations along the coast from opposite the batteries, in order to silence them while the troops were landing.

During these preparations two thousand five hundred men were embarked, and had assembled near the *Ajax*, commanded by Captain Cochrane, who was appointed to conduct the disembarkation. The four companies on board the *Hector* had also got into the boats, when a gun from the shore announced the approach of a flag of truce, which was conducted to the Commander in Chief about two o'clock in the afternoon. This circumstance occasioned a delay in our landing, and about three o'clock a signal was made for the men to return on board their respective ships.

This

Oct. 1800.

This sudden and countermanding orders caused an universal astonishment throughout the fleet, as there was the fairest promise of success, the day being uncommonly fine, the weather moderate, and the whole army in a state of enthusiasm respecting the success of the enterprize. That so favourable an opportunity should be suffered to pass, baffled conjecture, and disappointed the hopes of the whole service.

At seven o'clock in the evening a gun was fired and the signal made for three days provision to be prepared, and a proportionable quantity of grog to be got ready by four in the morning. This order also occasioned much speculation, as we certainly had lost one very favourable opportunity of landing. At the same time I cannot pass by, without observation, the high spirits and enthusiastic ardour of the troops, which promised an additional example of British valour and victory, had they been permitted to have displayed the one and to have obtained the other.

In the evening, the following orders were issued by the Admiral from on board the *Foudroyant* :

“ All the boats of the fleet, if the weather will admit, are to assemble alongside the flag-ship to-morrow morning at four o'clock, where they will be mustered, and then sent to the *Ajax*, where the Captains Cochrane, Stephenson, and Seymour will send them

them to the ships from which they are respectively to take the troops. Oct. 1800.

“ The *Phaeton* will take her station, and place the small ships to cover landing; while the cutters will mark the exact position.

“ All the ships having troops on board for the first embarkation, will anchor close without the *Phaeton*, if the weather should prove fine and fit for the purpose.

“ It is expected that the troops of the first division will be landed by eight o'clock. The seamen and artillery will not land till the first division is on shore.”

At midnight the Admiral, by signal, annulled the order of the preceding evening, and sent a boat to the *Hector*, to order all the boats to be immediately hoisted in: thus were our ardent expectations once more frustrated; though our enterprize might not, at the present moment, have answered to our wishes, for about three o'clock in the morning it blew a heavy gale, accompanied with rain*.

At

* The following correspondence took place between the English Commanders and the Spanish Governor of Cadiz :

“ ENGLISH ADMIRAL—When the cruel scourge which carries off, in this city and its environs,

M

Oct. 1800.

At day-light, the signal was made to the fleet to prepare to weigh, and the ammunition was consequently taken from the men, and returned to the gunner's store. At noon there was a general signal for the convoy to weigh and rendezvous in Tetuan Bay. At four

p. m.

environs, thousands of victims, and which seems as if it would not suspend its ravages until it has cut off all those who have yet escaped it, is so unhappily calculated to excite compassion, I see with surprise that the squadron under the command of your Excellency, is come to add to the consternation of the people. I have too good an opinion of the humanity of the English people, and of yours in particular, to believe that you would endeavour to render our situation more deplorable. Yet if, in consequence of the orders which his Excellency has received, he consents to draw upon himself the execration of all people, to cover himself with opprobrium in the eyes of the whole universe, by oppressing the unfortunate, and attacking him whom he thinks to be without defence; I declare to him, that the garrison under my command, accustomed to look at death with a serene brow, as well as to brave greater perils than all the perils of war, will know how to make a resistance, which shall only terminate with the entire annihilation of their enemies. I hope that the reply of your Excellency will inform me, whether I am to console the miserable inhabitant, or rouse him to vengeance and anger. God protect your Excellency!

“THOMAS DE MORLA.”

“Cadiz, Oct. 5.”

“Hitherto the ships employed in the blockade had not prevented the fishermen from exercising their innocent industry. It must cause astonishment that your Excellency should deprive us of this feeble relief.”

NO. II.

The Commanders in Chief of the Forces by Sea and Land of his Britannic Majesty, forming the Expedition before Cadiz.

“On Board the Foudroyant off Cadiz, Oct. 5, 1800.”

“We have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of this day, in which it depicts

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

83

p. m. the whole convoy was under sail, and the weather continued to be squally, with rain and an heavy sea. Oct. 1800.

The weather was moderate, with occasional calms; Cape Fra- Wednesd. 8.
falgar, Cadiz light-house, and Cape Spartel in sight.

The

depicts to us the deplorable situation of the town. We are deeply afflicted at these calamities, though we have strong reasons for believing that the effects of it are much less disastrous.—We are not ignorant that a great number of his Catholic Majesty's ships are fitted out to join the naval force of the French, and are to be employed to prolong the troubles which desolate all the nations of Europe, injure public order, and destroy the happiness of individuals. We have received from our Sovereign the order to use all our efforts to defeat the projects of the common enemy, by attempting to take or destroy the ships of war which are in the port and arsenal of Cadiz.—The number of the forces, the command of which has been entrusted to us, leaves little doubt of the success of this enterprise. We are little disposed to multiply, without a necessity, the calamities inseparable from war. If your Excellency consents to let us have the ships, armed, or in the act of arming, for the purpose of acting against our King, and prolonging the calamities of neighbouring nations, your crews and your officers shall be at liberty, and our fleet shall retire. Otherwise we shall be obliged to act conformably to the orders which we have received, and your Excellency must attribute to yourself alone the increase of calamity which will result.—We have the honour to be, with respect, &c.

“R. ABERCROMBY.

“KEITH.”

“P. S. A frigate will remain in the port to await your answer, that there may be no delay.”

M 2

No.

Oct. 1800.

Thursday 9.

The weather this morning was very hot, and not a breath of wind to relieve the heat: the convoy all in sight. Though we made but little way, we had entered the Straits of Gibraltar. A considerable number of gun-boats were stationed along the shore, some of which fired on such of the convoy as they thought within their reach, but without doing any mischief. What little wind there was proved unfavourable to our passage through the Gut.

Friday 10.

The fleet entered the Gut, but the winds continued to be contrary and variable. A cannonade was heard from the Spanish gun-boats, which was supposed to be directed against some of the convoy; and a signal was made by the Admiral for all Lieutenants from the fleet. In the afternoon, and towards the evening, there were slight showers of rain, with light breezes and hazy weather.

We

No. III.

" Messrs. the Generals by land and sea of his Britannic Majesty, when I represented to your Excellencies the melancholy situation of this city, in order to engage your humanity, not to aggravate it, by acts of hostility, I could not have thought that my request would be regarded as the effect of weakness or fear. Unfortunately, I find that your Excellencies have put a wrong construction on my expressions, since they have drawn upon me a proposition, as insulting to him to whom it is addressed, as dishonourable to those who have made it. Your Excellencies must hold yourselves apprized by me, that you must make more eligible propositions, if it be your intention that they should be accepted, &c.

" Oct. 6."

" THOMAS DE MORLA."

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

85

We came in sight of the rock of Gibraltar, but in the forenoon were forced to tack, and put into the Bay of Tangier, where we observed a French privateer and several gun-boats at anchor, which found a protection in the neutrality of the port. The fleet afterwards continued to steer for Gibraltar with strong breezes. In the course of the day the troops and ship's company were mustered at their quarters.

Oct. 1800.

Saturday 11.

This being the anniversary of Lord Duncan's brilliant victory over the Dutch fleet, it was commemorated by as much convivial festivity as our situation would allow. The high spirits of the day were, however, greatly damped by the melancholy accident of a gun-boat, which we had in tow, being upset, from the rapidity with which the ship cut through the water.

It was found necessary, during the light winds in the forenoon, and from the number of the enemy's gun-boats and cruizers which were in sight, to hoist out the guns belonging to the vessel, in case the enemy should come out to attack or cut off any of the convoy. As the weather was calm, the gun-boat would, of course, be enabled, from her particular construction, to run nearer the shore than the ship, and consequently to be more effectual in its operations; but the breeze which sprung up in the evening, and increased towards midnight, drove the ship with such rapidity through the water, as to risk the loss of the boat which was attached to it. When the danger was

7 apprehended,

Oct. 1800.

apprehended, the tow-rope was cut ; but unhappily the precaution was too late, as at the same moment the vessel upset, and, with five of the seven men who were on board, instantly disappeared : two alone were saved, one of them by swimming, and the other having seized the leg of his comrade, was fortunately preserved. The boat, with her gun, a twenty-four pounder, together with her stores and ammunition, were totally lost.

Sunday 12. The weather was clear, with strong breezes and an heavy sea. We now discovered, at the same time, that, in consequence of our having followed the Admiral during the course of the preceding night, and standing in towards Gibraltar, we had gone several leagues to leeward of Tetuan, which was the place of our immediate destination. We were therefore obliged to wear ship, and bear up to windward.

Strong breezes and fresh gales prevailed through the greatest part of the day. In the evening we anchored in Tetuan Bay. A great number of vessels were at this time in sight, who also entered the bay and came to an anchor.

Monday 13. At seven this morning it was mentioned as a report by an officer who had returned from the Admiral with orders, that we were to quit the *Hector* and be put on board transports. No official notice, however, of such a disposition had been received. At noon, the
weather

weather was hazy with fresh breezes. A signal was, at this time, made from the Commander in Chief, for all Brigade-Majors to attend on board the *Diadem* for orders. The ship's company was employed in watering; and at three *p.m.* a cutter arrived from Gibraltar with dispatches. The wind increased very much during the whole of the afternoon. At eight in the evening a signal was made to get under weigh, and our ship was, at that time, dragging her anchor. The current being so strong, and the gale having greatly increased, we were obliged to cut the cable and stand out for sea.

Oct. 1800.

It now blew a tremendous gale, and the sea running mountains high, occasioned very serious apprehensions for the safety of the transports, many of whom were close in to the shore. A number of signal guns were fired; and several of the boats from the fleet employed in watering, were stranded on the beach, from the great surf that runs along the coast. At the time when the *Hector's* boat was recalled, there were five boats aground, which, it was thought, could not be got off, and about a thousand casks, which were left in charge of some Moorish horse.

Throughout the whole of this morning, the gale continued, accompanied with rain and thick fog. We could discover very few of the fleet in company, the greater part having been dispersed during the night; and great anxiety prevailed respecting their safety.

At

Tuesday 14.

Oct. 1800.

At nine in the morning we could barely distinguish the rock of Gibraltar on our starboard-quarter, at the distance of about three or four leagues. We stood in for the bay, and at noon orders were given to come to an anchor: but just as we had got to Europa Point, the Admiral made a signal to counteract the orders for anchoring; which was followed by another to rendezvous at Cape Spartel. This was a very great disappointment, as we were now to repass the Gut in such a tremendous gale, and at a moment when we had flattered ourselves with the hope of some little repose after the fatigues and tossing we had lately experienced; as well as of being able to obtain fresh provisions for the troops, who were getting very sickly from long confinement on board, and salt provisions. The gale continued without abatement with thick and rainy weather.

We were obliged during the night to shew blue lights in order to mark our position to the squadron, that we might not run foul of each other. At eleven o'clock *p. m.* it blew an hurricane.

Wednesd. 15. The weather had undergone no change during the night, and the ship laboured greatly. The wind, at the same time, was adverse to our making Cape Spartel. The ship's company was employed in securing the lower-deck guns with the relieving tackle.

Thursday 16. The wind continued to be violent and unfavourable, and the rolling

rolling of the ship rendered our situation, as landmen, at once inconvenient and ridiculous.

Oct. 1800.

The gale continued as it had been for some days with little variation, and accompanied, at intervals, with an heavy swell. No land was now in sight. In the early part of the afternoon the weather began to moderate, though it still blew fresh, and the ship continued to labour with uncommon violence.

Friday 17.

At five *p.m.* there was a general signal from the Admiral, for the convoy in company to wear on the larboard tack; and boats were observed to be passing between Admiral Sir Richard Bickerton and General Sir Ralph Abercromby.

A continuance of the boisterous weather. At eight *a.m.* the Admiral made a signal for the convoy in sight to close. In about half an hour after he hailed the *Hector*, and ordered Captain Elphinstone to issue provisions to several of the ships whose stock was nearly exhausted.

Saturday 18.

At noon the gale increased, and we spoke with an English cutter privateer, last from Cadiz.

The weather was squally, with strong occasional breezes. A signal being made from the Admiral that there were letters from

Sunday 19.

N

England

Oct. 1800. England on board, a boat was immediately sent out, and we entertained hopes that letters for the officers of the regiment would have been received by it. But it returned with a few only for Captain Elphinstone.

Mr. Cowan, the first Lieutenant, at the same time received a letter from a friend on board the *Swiftsure*, informing him that newspapers had arrived, but were forwarded to the Commander in Chief. He represented them as supporting the opinion that the war was to be prolonged, and that new vigour was to mark the opening of the next campaign.

Monday 20. The boisterous weather had now moderated into gentle breezes; and in the afternoon, the land near Cape Spartel, and that near Cape Trefalgar, were both visible.

Tuesday 21. The weather continued to be the same as yesterday, and the Admiral with fourteen sail of the convoy were in sight. In the afternoon we observed Cape Spartel, and bore up towards it, when we saw upwards of sixty sail of the fleet at anchor close in with the land. Having reconnoitred the coast, we received an order from the Admiral to stand out to sea, and to cruize about the Straits for three days, to pick up any of the convoy that might have parted company in the late gale.

The

The weather continued to be moderate, and fourteen sail of the
convoy continued to be in sight. The *Diadem* parted company
and proceeded to Gibraltar. In the afternoon we observed several
of the enemy's cruisers close in with the Spanish coast.

Oct. 1800.

Wednesday 22.

A signal from the Admiral that letters were received from Eng-
land. They arrived by a vessel which had made the passage in ten
days. She reported that there were nine bags of letters for the
army, which would be delivered at Gibraltar. In the early part of
the afternoon, we discovered a Spanish polacre: the signal was ac-
cordingly made to chase, and several guns were fired from the *Hec-*
tor and other ships to bring her to; but, after a fruitless pursuit of
several hours, she escaped into Tangier Bay.

Thursday 23.

This morning the weather was fine, with strong easterly breezes;
we saw a strange sail to windward, when, after firing several shots
to bring her to, and making sail to overtake her, she hoisted Ame-
rican colours, and afterwards proved to be a schooner, bound from
Philadelphia to Malaga, with sugar, coffee, and cocoa. In the after-
noon we came close along the Barbary shore near Cape Spartel.

Friday 24.

The weather fine and calm. A signal from the Admiral for the
Captains of the squadron to go on board the flag ship. Captain
Elphinstone returned in half an hour, and brought letters from
England to the officers and men of the ship's company. Orders

Saturday 25.

N 2

were

Oct. 1800. were at the same time received to proceed through the Gut to join the Admiral and Commander in Chief at Gibraltar, who had left the squadron on the receipt of the first dispatches. The Admiral made signal for the *Hector* to come within hail of him, which was accomplished in about half an hour; when he gave orders to Captain Elphinstone to cruise about in his present station, till he fell in with or got intelligence of the transports, No. 19, 152, and 154, which had been several days absent from the squadron, and, in the event of meeting with or hearing of them, to proceed immediately to Gibraltar.

This being the anniversary of his Majesty's Accession to the Throne, it was observed with all the festivity our situation would admit, and with that loyal spirit which men who love their king and country will possess in any situation.

Sunday 26. The weather continued to be fine and moderate. In the afternoon we saw the transport No. 152, and towards the evening discovered the rest: the wind, however, was adverse to our proceeding through the Gut. Nothing occurred through the rest of the day, but a pious observance of those ceremonies which were formed for its celebration.

Monday 27. The weather continued as it had been for some days; the wind, however, was still adverse for our return to Gibraltar. At noon
the

the winds were variable, and the admiral and convoy got into the Gut opposite Terreffe, on the Spanish coast, Tangier Bay bearing south-east. In the afternoon we came in sight of the rock of Gibraltar, and at seven o'clock in the evening came to an anchor opposite the New Mole.

Oct. 1800.

At noon a vessel arrived from England with additional dispatches for the Commander in Chief, and Admiral of the fleet.

Tuesday 28.

At length the time arrived for us to learn the final object of this expedition. It was unfolded by the following arrangement of the forces that composed it.

The regiments of limited service were ordered to proceed under the command of Lieutenant-General Sir James Pulteney to Portugal, with the exception of the 40th and 63d regiments, the former of which was ordered to Malta, to do garrison duty there, and to relieve the 30th and 89th. The latter were disembarked here on the 26th, and relieved the 44th regiment, who embarked the same day, and formed part of the army destined for Egypt; which was arranged as follows:

Brigade of Guards,

The second battalion, first regiment, Scots Royal,

The second, or Queen's regiment,

The

Oct. 1800.

The eighth, or King's regiment,
The thirteenth do.
The eighteenth do.
The twenty-third do. or Welsh Fuzileers,
The twenty-eighth do.
The forty-second do. or Royal Highlanders,
The forty-fourth do.
The fiftieth do.
The fifty-fourth do.
The fifty-eighth do.
The seventy-ninth do. or Cameronian Highlanders,
The eighty-ninth do.
The ninetieth do.
The ninety-second do. or the Gordon Highlanders,
The Corsican Rangers,
The Minorca regiment,
Dillon's regiment, and
De Rolle's do.

which, with Homspech's rifle corps, the detachment of the 11th Light Dragoons, and the Royal Artillery, amounted to 15,000 men.

In consequence of this disposition of the troops, Lord Craven returned to England, on leave of absence.

Wednesd. 29.

I repeated my visit to Gibraltar, and examined with particular attention

attention every part of the town and garrison. Many traces of the last ever memorable siege were still visible. On my return on board, I found that General Craddock and his suite was ordered on the staff in the island of Minorca, for which place he sailed in an early part of the afternoon.

Oct. 1800.

In the course of this evening Lord Craven took his departure for England, to the great regret of both officers and men who had the honour and happiness of being under his command; as, at the same time that he suffered no relaxation in point of duty, his attention and kindness to his regiment were unremitting and without reserve.

The weather was fine in the morning, but towards noon it became squally, with variable winds and rain. At three *p. m.* the *Princess Charlotte*, who was ordered home with dispatches, got under weigh.

Thursday 30.

The weather moderate and pleasant. Several ships arrived this morning from Tetuan Bay, and also from the eastward, &c. Some of the troops were removed to other ships, and the first battalion of the 40th landed this morning at the dock-yard, under the command of Colonel Browne. A signal was made for the detachment on board the *Hector* to be removed on board the *Romulus*, which was effected on the following morning, where we found a very lamentable difference between that and our late situation.

NOVEMBER.
Saturday 1.
Hector, Gibraltar Bay.

Sunday 2.

Nov. 1800.

Monday 3.

The *Hector's* boat came on board at an early hour of this morning to fetch several of our officers as well as myself to breakfast, an invitation which was kindly and considerately given, as we had very little indeed to comfort us where we were. Here we proposed to remain through the course of the day ; but the *Hector* being ordered to weigh, we were obliged to leave her at the moment of dinner ; when we took an affectionate leave of the officers on board, to whom we had been so much indebted for every kindness and accommodation in their power, and put off for the *Romulus*, which, to our great mortification, had been ordered to perform quarantine. We were, however, obliged to go on board, and dined from the stock belonging to the King's own regiment, as the rock, before which we lay, could afford us nothing but the dry goods of a grocer's warehouse.

Tuesday 4.

On board the
Romulus,
Gibraltar
Bay.

The weather was moderate, and a signal was made for the fleet to sail for Tetuan Bay the first fair wind. We accordingly weighed anchor, and shifted our birth farther out. At five *a. m.* we heard an heavy cannonade from Algeziras, where the forts and ships were firing, as we supposed to celebrate some festival, as there was no other apparent cause for such a discharge of artillery. In the evening we weighed anchor and stood to sea.

Wednesd. 5.

The weather continued to be moderate and pleasant, and the greater part of the fleet was now in company. At noon the rock
of

of Gibraltar bore N. E. by E. At two *p. m.* we lost sight of it and stood in to Tetuan Bay, where, about six in the evening, we came to an anchor opposite the watering-place, at the distance of about two miles from the shore. We had no other provisions than salt junk, &c. but our friends on board the *Hector*, who, whether present or absent, never omitted an opportunity of doing us kindness, sent a very welcome present of onions and lemons. Nov. 1800.

Captain Culverhouse went on board the Admiral, and returned with the agreeable intelligence, that the quarantine being taken off, the fleet might have communication with the shore for the purpose of laying in fresh meat and other necessaries for the troops.

The ship's company was employed in procuring water. We received also a supply of fresh provisions, with fruit and vegetables of various kinds, which was very seasonable, as the scurvy had begun to make its appearance among us. Thursday 6.

The weather was fine and moderate; and the people were occupied in getting water, but were not successful in obtaining any flesh meat. The boat brought nothing but a few pumpkins, a quantity of eggs, and a large fish resembling a cod. The price of the eggs was fifty for a dollar; for the fish we paid a cobb; and for the Friday 7.

O the

Nov. 1800. the same coin we had the pumpkins ; and we gave no more for a sackfull of walnuts.

We received a signal from the *Ajax*, commanded by the Honourable Captain Cochrane, to weigh and proceed immediately with the *Charon* for Malta, without waiting for any other vessel. At three o'clock, therefore, we set sail from Tetuan Bay, with a fair wind and fresh breeze.

This bay is very extensive ; but when strong N. or N.E. gales blow into it, ships are generally forced to slip their cables and put to sea. The town of Tetuan can be distinctly seen with the naked eye, and every object on the side next the sea was perfectly discernible with a glass. The country around it abounds with wood, and the whole scene has a very picturesque appearance.

Saturday 8. The weather continued to be pleasant with fresh breezes till the twelfth, when at about eleven *p. m.* the breeze had increased gradually till it blew a very heavy gale of wind, accompanied with a mountainous sea. It was very fortunate for us, that, from the expectation of falling in with the coast of Sardinia, we had taken in sail to lay-to the greater part of the night.

Thursday 13. The gale blew with unabating violence and a tremendous sea.

We

We continued to lay-to till nine *a. m.* when we made sail, and at half past one *p. m.* we saw land seven or eight miles E. N. E. which, in a short time, was discovered to be the island of Galata. There was no diminution of the gale, so that we lay-to from sunset till the morning.

Nov. 1800.

The wind had lost somewhat of its violence. The ship, however, continued to labour very much, and made but little way, not more than from three to four knots an hour. The *Charon*, which we sometimes lost sight of, was now in company. There was an heavy rain throughout the whole of this morning, with a thick fog.

Friday 14.

At ten o'clock *a. m.* we saw land, which we discovered at noon to be Cape Bon, and two small islands about nine miles to the westward of it. The breeze now freshened, and the ship was going at the rate of seven or eight knots an hour; when, on letting loose more sail, our course was proportionably increased.

By observation we were at noon one hundred and sixty miles from Malta; and, at the same time, we saw the island of Pentelaria bearing S. E. The wind had now become moderate, the weather was altogether pleasant, and we experienced no inconsiderable degree of exhilaration at the prospect of quitting an element by no means congenial to the nature and habits of military men.

Nov. 1800.

Saturday 15.

The morning promised a beautiful day, and its prognostication was fulfilled. A fine steady breeze filled our sails, and after breakfast land was discovered from the mast-head, which was supposed to be Malta. At nine *a. m.* we passed the coast of Sicily then bearing to the N. E. At noon we saw the island of Goza ; and at two *p. m.* came so near it, that its buildings were clearly distinguished : it then bore due E. In the course of an hour we had passed it, when we came in view of the island of Malta ; and, at about eight in the evening, came to an anchor in the harbour, opposite the town of La Valetta.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER IV.

The Troops on board the Hector, &c. disembark and go into Barracks—Circumstances respecting their Arrival—The first Division of the Expedition arrives with Sir Ralph Abercromby—Is followed by the second Division with Lord Keith—Arrangements made in the Army by the Commander in Chief—His unremitting Attention to its Discipline and Conduct—He inspects and reviews the different Regiments—General Orders respecting the Troops—They embark, and the Fleet sets sail for Egypt—Returns of the Army embarked on that Occasion.

WE received orders from General Pigot to disembark, which were executed at half past two in the afternoon on the Marino Quay, from whence we marched into the large and commodious barracks of St. Gregori. Four companies were ordered to occupy Fort Manuel, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Kemiss; and the six remaining companies were directed to take possession of part of the barracks occupied by the 35th regiment, on the La Valetta side, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Clay.

Nov. 1800.

Sunday 16.
La Valetta in
the island of
Malta.

These arrangements being made, and the men comfortably settled, the officers proceeded to the European Hotel, where a most excellent dinner was provided for them, which, including wines, &c. did

Nov. 1800. not exceed two dollars each; a price which, when compared with the tavern demands of Gibraltar, was considered as cheapness itself.

In the evening we went to a public ball at the Opera House, which served to amuse us, though its novelty was its best recommendation. The company was by no means select, and the women were in masks; many of them indeed were of a character which rendered such a covering decent, if not absolutely necessary. I cannot, however, omit a circumstance which was very gratifying to the British officers who were present at this amusement, and was well imagined by the director of the musicians:—*God save the King!* was played in full band. This animating air, which never fails to excite the most loyal feelings in the mind of every true Briton, was accompanied with every becoming mark of respect by the Maltese.

Monday 17. This morning was employed by the Quarter-Master General in arranging quarters for the officers, which were provided in houses that had rather the appearance of palaces than private dwellings.

Tuesday 18. The morning was so wet that it was not possible to stir out, but in the afternoon paid a visit to the fort of Santa Vittoria. This day witnessed the fatal effects of intemperance and cheap wines in the death of Corporal Booth, who, in leaning over one of the barrack-room

room windows, lost his equipoise, and, falling into the yard, was killed on the spot. Nov. 1800.

At noon we discovered several sail of large ships, which soon proved to be the first division of the expedition under the command of Sir Ralph Abercromby to Egypt, from Tetuan Bay, and in the afternoon they all anchored safe in the harbour. Wednesd. 19.

Vessels being part of the fleet that composed the expedition were successively arriving in the harbour; and General Pigot was busily employed in making arrangements for the reception of the troops.

This day his Excellency Sir Ralph Abercromby and suite arrived in his Majesty's ship the *Diadem*, and was saluted with nineteen guns. The General chose, for his residence during his stay at Malta, the same palace that had been occupied by Bonaparte on his way to Egypt. Lord Keith also arrived with his squadron from Minorca, consisting of several men of war, frigates and transports: among which were the *Foudroyant*, the *Alexander*, the *Minotaur*, the *Ajax*, the *Northumberland*, the *Dictator*, and the *Wassanaer*, with the *Europa*, *Ceres*, *Roebuck*, *Inconstant*, *Dido*, &c. The Commander in Chief, therefore, began, with his well-known activity, to make the necessary dispositions for the army which was destined to act in Egypt. Wednesd. 26.

The

Nov. 1800.

The 30th and 89th regiments were ordered to prepare for immediate service, and to be no longer considered as part of the garrison of Malta.

Several regiments were landed in order that the men might be refreshed previous to the Egyptian expedition.

The arrival of such a fleet and army, as may well be supposed, had an immediate and very sensible influence on the markets, so that the price of every article was almost instantly quadrupled: but though the value of every thing was enhanced by such an influx of people, the appearance of plenty still prevailed.

It having been notified to the Commander in Chief, that a great part of the 40th regiment were eager to accompany him on the expedition, under the command of Colonel Spencer, his Excellency was pleased to make choice of the four flank companies, directing, at the same time, that they should be completed to sixty men each. They were accordingly removed to Ricasoli, where they were seen, on the following day, by Sir Ralph Abercromby, who said, that he did not come to inspect them, having had that pleasure so lately, when he had every reason to be satisfied with them; but to return them his sincere acknowledgments for their gallant offers of service, which, while it manifested a zeal for their King and Country, so honourable to themselves, enabled him to avail himself

himself of the assistance of their gallant commander Colonel Spencer, an officer equally distinguished for his zeal and military talents.

Nov. 1800.

This day the Commander in Chief inspected on the Floriana, Thursday 27. amidst a great concourse of spectators, the 30th regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Wilkinson; the 48th, by Major, now Lieutenant-Colonel Weymss; and the second battalion of the 35th regiment, commanded by Colonel MacAlister: on which occasion Sir Ralph Abercromby was pleased to express himself, in terms of great satisfaction as to their respective appearance, distinguishing, at the same time, the 30th regiment, with peculiar expressions of approbation.

The troops, on this occasion, were dressed in complete marching order, and his Excellency was pleased to pay particular attention to the manner in which the men carried their knapsacks; when he ordered them to be worn high, the pack raised up on the shoulders, that the weight might fall as light as possible on the chests, while, at the same time, the men might enjoy a more free use of their arms.

During the remainder of the time he passed here, the whole of his mornings were employed by the General in reviewing the troops, and regulating the state of the army; and from twelve to three he gave audience to his officers, and such persons as had any business

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Nov. 1800. to transact with him : though, at the calls of justice or humanity, he was ready at all hours, and to persons of every denomination, to administer the relief in his power.

Sunday 30. This being the anniversary of St. Andrew, the tutelar saint of Scotland, the day was celebrated with a convivial festivity becoming the occasion, and the natives of that country wore the usual cross in their hats.

While the Commander in Chief was employed in making the necessary arrangements on shore ; Admiral Lord Keith was no less active in his preparations on board the fleet.

The markets were abundantly supplied with every necessary article, nevertheless the prices were enhanced to a degree that the Maltese had never received, till an English army arrived at their island to astonish them by paying whatever they demanded, without complaint or hesitation.

From this period till the 17th of December, when the army embarked, Sir Ralph Abercromby was constantly employed in inspecting the troops, and preparing them, by preliminary discipline, for the important service in which they were so soon to be employed.

GENERAL

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

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GENERAL ORDERS,

Issued from Head Quarters, Malta, Oct. 11, 1800.

“ The army under the command of Sir Ralph Abercromby is to be considered as forming two lines and a reserve. The first line will consist of the brigade of guards, the first, second, and third brigades. DECEMBER.
Thursday.

“ The second line will consist of the 4th and 5th of the line. The corps, under the command of Major-General Moore, will form the reserve, from which a battalion or adequate corps will occasionally be taken to cover each flank of the army.”

“ December 14.

“ By order of the Commander in Chief, all officers, except general and staff officers, and those officers on public employments, are to repair on board their respective ships this evening, and are not to come on shore but by leave of the Generals commanding brigades.” Sunday 14.

“ December 16.

“ As long as the wind continues contrary, general officers commanding brigades may permit such a proportion of officers belonging to each corps to come on shore as they may think proper.” Tuesday 16.

“ December 18.

“ It appearing to be for the good of the service, in the actual situation of the fleet and army; and Vice-Admiral Lord Keith con- Thursday 18.

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curing

Dec. 1800. curring in opinion with Sir Ralph Abercromby, that deserters from either service who have entered into the other previous to this date, should not be claimed, it is the General's orders, that no such claims should be made on the part of the army: men deserting subsequent to this date, it is agreed by the Commanders in Chief, to be respectively given up and punished, as the enormity of their crime deserves: but such claims must be made through their respective Commanders in Chief, or the senior officer for the time being."

Friday 19. All the officers of the army, except general officers, were ordered on board, and not permitted to come on shore, as the fleet was under orders to put to sea with the first fair wind.

Saturday 20. Early in the morning a signal gun was fired for the remaining officers to repair on board the fleet; and the wind having become favourable, many of the transports were working out of the harbour, and the whole fleet preparing to get under weigh. Sir Ralph Abercromby embarked without the least form or ceremony, and took his leave of the island, which, alas! was destined to be his sepulchre, and would so soon become the final scene of his glory.

About five in the afternoon, the whole fleet got clear of the harbour, and, with a fine strong breeze, took its course for Egypt, with the heartfelt wishes and reiterated blessings of those who were left behind.

Sir

Sir Ralph Abercromby received, on this occasion, an accession of Dec. 1800.
 five hundred Maltese, who were enlisted to act in the capacity of
 pioneers to the army. Such was the high and unfeigned esteem
 in which the British were held by the natives, that the wish of the
 Commander in Chief to establish such a corps was no sooner known
 than it was completed.

*Return of the Army under Sir RALPH ABERCROMBY, embarked at Malta for Egypt,
 the 10th-December 1801.*

GUARDS.

M. G. Ludlow	{ 1st battalion Coldstream.....	399
B. M. Capt. Carey.....	{ 1st battalion 3d regiment.....	939
		— 1,338

FIRST BRIGADE.

	{ Royals, 2d battalion.....	705
M. G. Coote	{ 54th, 1st battalion.....	598
B. M. Capt. Farquharson	{ 54th, 2d battalion.....	597
	{ 92d regiment.....	686
		— 2,586

SECOND BRIGADE.

	{ 8th regiment.....	490
M. G. Cradock.....	{ 13th regiment.....	737
B. M. Capt. Forster.....	{ 18th regiment.....	495
	{ 90th regiment.....	775
		— 2,497

THIRD BRIGADE.

	{ 50th regiment.....	529
M. G. Earl Cavan	{ 79th regiment.....	741
B. M. Ramsay.....	{ Marines of the fleet	700
		— 1,970

Carried over..... 8,391

FOURTH

JOURNAL OF THE

Dec. 1800.

Brought over..... 8,391

FOURTH BRIGADE.

	Queen's regiment.....	557
B. G. Doyle	30th regiment.....	432
B. M. Capt. Doyle.....	44th regiment.....	290
	89th regiment.....	402
		— 1,681

FIFTH BRIGADE.

	Minorca regiment.....	967
B. G. Stewart.....	De Roll's regiment	543
B. M. Capt. St. Piermo.....	Dillon's regiment.....	557
		— 2,067

CAVALRY BRIGADE.

B. G. Finch	12th regiment dragoons.....	500
B. M. Capt. Turner.....	26th regiment dragoons	500
		— 1,000

RESERVE.

	11th light dragoons.....	52
	Homspech's light dragoons.....	141
M. G. Moore.....	23d regiment foot.....	558
Aid-de-Camp Capt. Anderson	28th regiment.....	630
B. G. Oaks.....	40th flank companies.....	240
B. M. Capt. Groves.....	42d regiment.....	943
	58th regiment.....	511
	Corsican rangers.....	208
		— 3,283

B. G. Lawson	artillery.....	477 ... 477
Colonel Mants	staff corps	90 ... 90
Colonel Smith, B. N.	seamen	500 ... 500

Grand Total 17,489

TROOPS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL.

A battalion of Maltic pioneers consisting of 800.

FORMATION OF THE ARMY.

Major-General Hutchinson first line.

Guards, 1st, 2d, and 3d brigades of the line.

Second line, Major-General Cradock 4th and 5th brigades.

Major-General Moore the reserve.

As no events of importance took place in the passage of the fleet to Marmorice Bay, I shall avail myself of the interval to give some account of the island of Malta, which the circumstances of the late war had forced upon the attention, and so greatly advanced in the political estimation of Europe.

Dec. 1800.

CHAPTER V.

A Description of the Island of Malta, its Cities, Towns, Fortifications, Public Buildings, Harbours, Climate, Language, Physical Circumstances, Interior Country, Produce, Trade, &c. &c. &c. &c. with an Account of the adjacent Islands of Goza, Cumina, &c. &c.

THE island of Malta is separated from that of Goza by a strait of about five miles in breadth, in the centre of which appears the small island of Cumina.

Dec. 1800.

MALTA.

The greatest breadth of Malta is about twelve miles, its length twenty, and it is sixty in circumference. Goza is not more than half the former, either in circuit or diameter. Cumina is not quite a mile in breadth, and about three miles long; but it is cultivated, and fruitful in corn. It possesses a fort, which was erected in the year 1618.

Malta contains two cities and twenty-two small towns, or *cazals*, a derivative word from the Arabic, signifying a station; and sufficiently proves that these villages were gradually formed from the collected habitations of labourers, who successively built their huts

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on

Dec. 1800.

on those spots which formed situations convenient to their particular employment. A rise not dissimilar to that of the borough towns of our own country.

CITTA
VECCHIA.

Citta Vecchia, or the old city, whose scite is on the highest ground in the island, and near the centre of it was the ancient capital; but the city of La Valetta, where the government resides, is the actual metropolis of the island. Its dependencies, which are enclosed within stupendous fortifications, are considered as so many distinct towns. Besides the cazals, there are small groups of houses scattered about the country. The coast is defended by entrenchments, batteries, and towers, from whence the inhabitants give advice, by signal or fires, of any suspected vessels that may be seen at sea. These towers, built at a small distance from each other, and forming a curve, the extremities of which reach to the two castles, placed at the entrance of the harbour, repeat the signals with such rapidity as ensures the prompt defence of the whole coast.

Besides the two chief harbours between which the city of La Valetta is situated, there are several bays, where vessels may ride with safety. Two of the most considerable are St. Paul's Bay, and that of Marzo Scirocco, where the Turks landed in the year 1556.

The whole of the coast affords opportunities for landing, except the southern part, which is bold, rocky, and of a great height.

The



J. Grieg. sculp.

of the Grand Harbour.

The island of Goza has no harbour, but several bays. Its coasts are also furnished with towers, whose signals, repeated by the fort at Cumina, very rapidly communicate the alarm to Malta. It contains one castle, one town, and six cazals.

Dec. 1800.

GOZA.

The city of La Valetta was built, or at least its foundations were laid, in the year 1566. The elevation of the spot, and its position, between the two great harbours of the island, determined the choice of its situation. It derives its name from the Grand Master La Valette, who, after having sustained a siege against the Turks, with very unequal numbers, and almost incredible efforts of courage, and fearing another and more powerful descent from the Ottoman troops, obtained supplies from the court of Spain, and caused the walls of the new city to be traced according to a plan conceived and laid down by himself. The inhabitants of either sex and of every age made a voluntary offer of their labours towards building the city, which would not only prove their defence, but serve to increase their commerce and secure their wealth; as well as increase the importance of the island, by the additional protection it would give to the trade of Europe in the Mediterranean sea.

LA VALETTA.

La Valette dying in 1568, it was reserved for his successor, De Mont, to finish the work, and the whole was completed on the 18th of May 1571.

Dec. 1800.

The principal attention in building this city was paid to the construction of fortifications for its defence; and the chapel, called La Vittoria, built by La Valette, in commemoration of raising the siege, was at that time the only place of worship belonging to the Order.

The knights of each nation were allotted a particular spot for their hotels; and that of the English knights, which has since been replaced by the Anglo-Bavarian, was fixed in the quarter of La Polorista.

It may also gratify curiosity to be informed, that the knights of each nation were separately attached to the defence of a particular post, and that the assignments of them were according to the following arrangement :

The knights of Provence,	the Bastion of	St. John, &c.
Auvergne	Ditto	St. Michael.
France	Ditto	St. James.
Italy	Ditto	St. Peter and St. Paul.
Arragon	Ditto	St. Andrew.
England	Platform of	St. Lazarus.
Germany	Bastion of	St. Sebastian.
Castile	Ditto	St. Barbara.

La



Warner sculp.

of Grogale

13. S. Infermeria della Religione.
14. S. Domenico.
15. Chiesa dell' Armi.
16. Ospedale delli Donne.
17. S.^{ta} Maria Maddalena.
18. S. Elmo.
19. S. Elmo Light House.
20. The Bastion of S. John, under which is the Vault that contains the remains of the late R.th Hon.^{ble} Gen.^l S. Ralph Abercrombie which were interr'd with Military Honours. April 29th 1802.

La Valetta has already been mentioned as seated on a lofty part of the island; and it must now be added, that it projects boldly towards the sea for about a mile, is washed on either side by two branches or inlets of it, and presents, at the same time, a stupendous mass of fortifications. Dec. 1800.

Its principal batteries are those of the fort and castle of St. Elmo. This fort stretches, as it were, into the sea, is defended by three tier of cannon, chiefly brass, and has an handsome signal tower rising from the crown of it. The castle, at the same time, is surrounded with a ditch fifty feet in depth, and is also encircled by the battery of St. John, which is mounted with a numerous and an heavy artillery, chiefly brass four-and-twenty pounders, and brass mortars. This castle and battery completely overlook the harbour, and command its entrance, presenting to the sea an almost impregnable aspect. Opposite to it, on the right, is Fort Ricasoli, and on the left Fort Tigné, which commands the Marsa Muschetta harbour, allotted for vessels performing quarantine.

The castle and batteries of Ricasoli are situate at the entrance of RICASOLI. the grand harbour, which they likewise command from a variety of points. It is a place of great strength, as it stands upon a rock, and its batteries are mounted with heavy cannon from twenty-four to forty-two pounders. Its barracks, which are very extensive, and spacious galleries, are all bomb-proof. In one of the latter, on

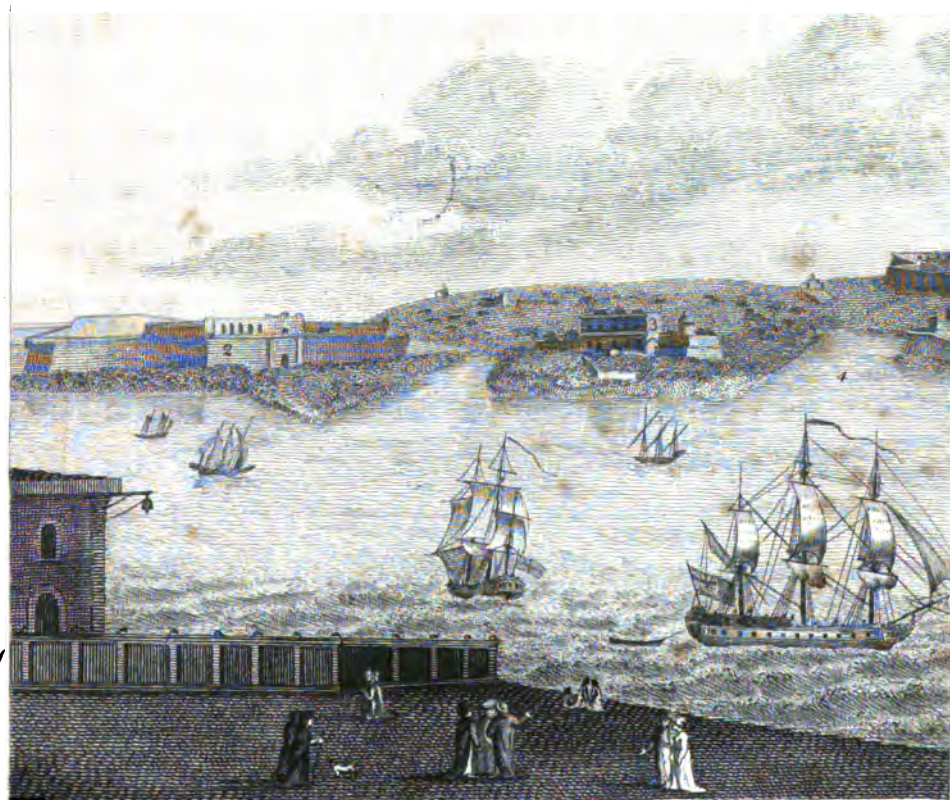
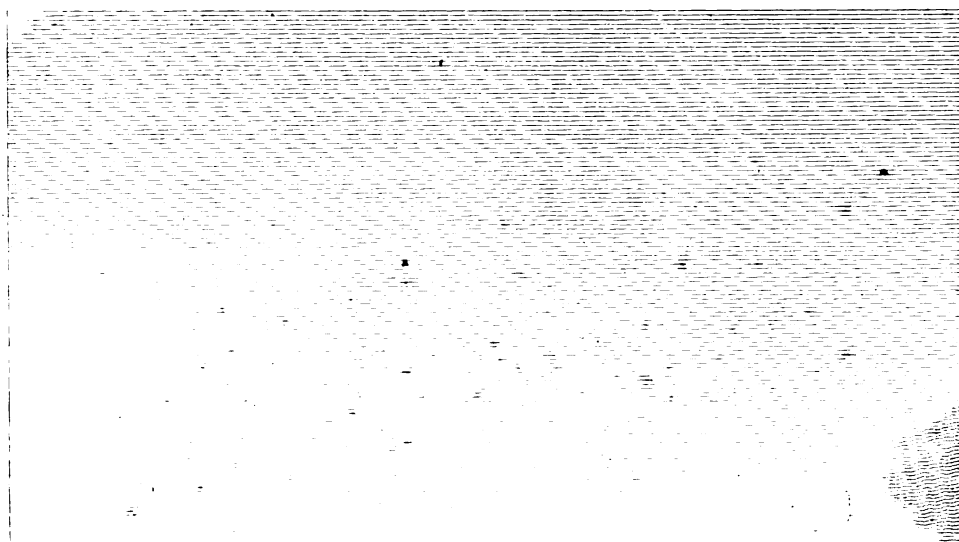
Dec. 1800.

on the eastern point, there are a considerable number of twenty-four pounders, pointed towards the sea, which completely defend the approach of the town or harbour from the east, and must inevitably destroy any ships which should be so idly daring as to hazard the conflict.

The entrance to it is by a flight of sixty or eighty steps from the water, at the top of which is a ditch, with a draw-bridge leading to a strong gate-way, whose arch supports the house officially occupied by the commandant of the garrison. From the first story of this commodious mansion there is a noble view, comprehending St. Elmo, the entrance of the harbour, the city of La Valetta, and other connected circumstances. There is also a grand platform, on which guns may be mounted, that extends several hundred feet over a range of buildings occupied as barracks, and bomb-proof. There is a very noble parade for the troops immediately fronting the commandant's house, which the zeal and attention of General Pigot, that were constantly applied to every object of public utility, had formed a plan to improve, and which was nearly completed when that excellent officer returned to England.

Palace of St.
ANGELO.

About a quarter of a mile from Fort Ricasoli, and further up the harbour, is the noble palace of St. Angelo, which was built by the late Grand Master, and stands on a very elevated situation. It was intended as a place of summer residence, and on that account placed



Lieu 'E. Anderson del

1. La Barrière. 2. Fort Ricasoli. 3. Yard Birchi
4. Port des Anglois. 5. Chateau S^t Ange
6. Le Bourg. 7. Port des Galeres. 8. Île de la Singha. 9. S^{te} Marguerite.

A View of Ricasoli, the Castle

placed so near the water. It is built in a style of great taste and elegance, and is completely finished except the roofing. In this state it has been left, and consequently must have suffered considerable injury. Dec. 1800.

Fort Tigné is on the other side of Valetta. It is built on a neck of land at the mouth of the right entrance of the quarantine harbour, or Marsa Muschetta. This fort was erected by order of the Grand Master, Emanuel de Rohan, and designed by a French engineer, named Tigné, from whom it derives its denomination. It is of a triangular form, with a round tower facing Valetta, and surrounded by a ditch forty feet in depth, chiselled out of the solid rock. It is a very handsome building, and commands the approach from the westward to Valetta, with the entrance to the quarantine harbour, for a considerable distance. It is fortified with great strength, is well mounted with cannon, and contains barracks for three hundred men, which are bomb-proof. It is also undermined in every part, and the four entrances to the mines are two hundred feet in length, and cut out of the solid rock. FORT TIGNE.

This fort sustained an heavy cannonade, during the blockade, from a battery constructed by that able and intelligent officer, Brigadier-General Graham, to whose indefatigable exertions and scientific perseverance we were greatly indebted for the surrender of the place. Such were his amiable manners, and so far had he conciliated

Dec. 1800.

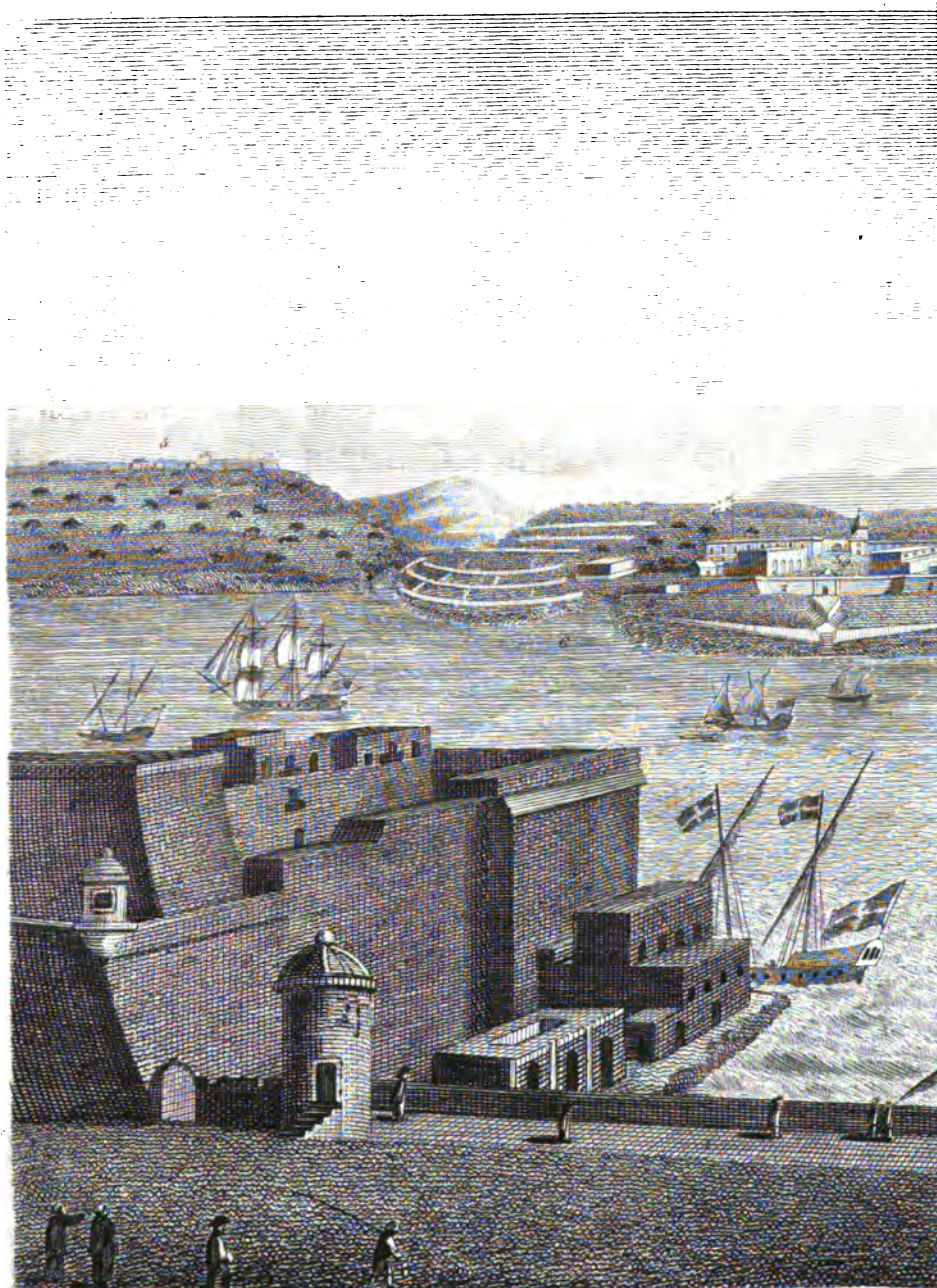
ciliated the affections of the Maltese, that they acted under him with a zeal, confidence, and spirit, which proved, on various occasions, that their ancient valour was not extinguished.

Fort MANU-
EL.

Fort Manuel, which is situated about a mile from Fort Tigné, and separated from it by a part of the harbour about a quarter of a mile in breadth, is less remarkable perhaps for its defensive utility, than the beauty of its construction, which we trust will appear from the engraving that accompanies this page. Its mines extend a considerable distance beyond the ditches, which are generally forty feet in depth. It is immediately opposite the Marsa Muschetta gate, and the public slaughter-houses of La Valetta.

The probable motive for erecting this beautiful fort, was to keep an enemy at a distance from La Valetta, should they land in any part of the island to the westward: and thereby prevent the cruel effects of a bombardment on that city. It contains an handsome chapel, and in the square is a fine statue in bronze, of the Grand Master Emanuel, who was at the sole expence of building the fort. It is near the Lazaretto, but is separated from it by a wall of forty feet in height, with a carriage-way beneath it. The only approach to it, except by boats, is by a small neck of land, or isthmus, connecting with the country, about half a mile at the back of the fort, and which is sufficiently guarded and defended.

The



Lieu: A. Anderson del.

1. The Fort & Quay of Marsamuscet.
2. Fort Manuel & its Fortifications. &c.
3. Fort Tigne.
4. Houses, where the British had a strong Battery during the blockade.
5. Distant View of Civetta Vecchia.

A View of Fort Manuel

Publ

The buildings which form the Lazaretto, are very extensive and commodious; presenting an handsome front to another arm of the harbour which penetrates into the country. Those who prefer performing their quarantine on shore, may here find every conveniency and accommodation suited to their situation.

Dec. 1800.

This part of the harbour is spacious, and capable of receiving ships of the greatest burthen; though its navigation is in some degree interrupted by the shoals which have been collected in it. The vessels which are subjected to the performance of quarantine, generally prefer it, on account of the communications they may always enjoy with the shore, at the Lazaretto as well as on the La Valetta side, at the Marsa Muschetta gate, where there is a place particularly appropriated for their convenience.

The ancient castle of St. Angelo is situated in the centre of the grand harbour, and rises from a rock that protrudes, as it were, into the water. It faces the mouth of the harbour, and, having four tiers of powerful artillery from the level of the sea to the top of the works, with a battery of mortars, it may be said irresistibly to command it. So that, independent of St. Elmo and Ricasoli, this part of the castle is capable of sending to instant destruction a ship of any force that should presume to come within its reach, as one hundred pieces of very heavy cannon could be made to bear upon her.

Castle
St. ANGELO

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This

Dec. 1800.

This castle is situated on a rocky peninsula, and may be considered, both from art and nature, as an impregnable fortress. It has only one entrance, which is by a draw-bridge from the town of Vittoriosa; and there are three covered gates of prodigious strength which at once guard and form the passage. It contains several handsome buildings, with barracks for a considerable body of troops, and accommodation for officers. From its elevated situation it overlooks the greater part of Vittoriosa, with the towns of Bormula and Isola.

VITTORIO-

SA.

On passing the draw-bridge you enter Vittoriosa, which is built in a very irregular manner, and rises gradually from the water side in a state of acclivity to the distance of about half a mile. The houses are of stone, and equally elegant and commodious; the streets, or rather lanes, for they deserve no other appellation, are narrow and irregular. It contains a fine palace, and two handsome churches, which are decorated with paintings and sculptures. There is also a very neat and cleanly market-place in the centre of the town; in the middle of which appears, on a pedestal, a fine statue in bronze of the Grand-Master who laid the foundations of the place. Every part of it is well inhabited, and fountains of water continually refresh it.

BORMULA.

The town of Bormula is separated from it by a draw-bridge over a ditch about twenty feet wide, and between fifty and sixty in depth, which, like those we have already described, is dug out of the solid rock. The fortifications of this place bear a proportionable degree

of strength to those which have been successively mentioned ; but are of no apparent utility, as the principal entrance is so secured and defended as to bid defiance to any attack. The place of parade, which is a very fine one, is on the top of an extensive range of store-houses erected on the quay. On ascending them, a very noble statue in bronze presents itself, representing one of the Grand Masters of a former period : but so numerous are these commemorating testimonials of regard and veneration for the distinguished persons who have enjoyed and dignified the supreme command of this island, that unless it were in my power to give a chronological account of them, it must be equally tedious and uninteresting to continue a repetition of the memorials erected to their honour. Dec. 1800.

This town, like Vittoriosa, is built on the slope of an hill, and displays an equal irregularity. There is only one spacious street ; the rest are narrow, and without any kind of pavement. The houses, however, being regularly built, present a pleasing appearance. The barracks for troops are handsome and spacious ; and frequent fountains pour forth their cooling and salubrious streams. Adjoining to the quay is an excellent and commodious market-place, where butchers meat, poultry, vegetables and fruits, are supplied in ample abundance.

This place is very well inhabited ; it contains several churches, whose exterior appearance and interior decoration mark the munifi-

Dec. 1800.

cence and piety of their founders and succeeding patrons. The streets both here and in Vittoriosa are indebted to the wooden images of Madonas and Saints for their illumination. At every corner, one of these figures appears in a kind of alcove, with a glass door or lattice work to preserve it and, thus being lighted up every night, they become very useful to the inhabitants.

The COTTO-
NERIA.

That part of this place which occupies the top of the declivity, is named the Cottoneria, from the Grand Master of that name, who built it, with the two handsome gateways, and an immense wall of eighty feet in height, and bomb-proof, within which there is a spacious gallery, and cantonments for a great number of troops; this wall not only encircles Cottoneria and Bormula, but communicates with Vittoriosa; and the ramparts are every-where mounted with cannon.

The extent of the harbour on this side is here terminated, and there is no space between Cottoneria and Singlia, or Isola, but what is occupied by a strong gateway; and, with that exception, the whole, including Vittoriosa, might be considered as one town, the different parts being divided only by artificial separations.

SINGLIA.

Without the wall of Singlia, there is a dock-yard for careening and repairing ships; where a first rate man of war might come close to the wharf. Here there are store-houses of every description, and
com-

commodious places appropriated to the different artificers and workmen employed in that department.

Dec. 1800.

The entrance to the town of Singlia is from the dock-yard, by a flight of steps terminated by a strong arched gateway : this place is situated on an eminence, and, except one street, is as irregular as the places which have been already described. The principal street displays a noble appearance, and extends from the entrance by the gateway, to the point opposite La Valetta, about three quarters of a mile ; it is well paved, and in the middle of it there is an handsome column, crowned by a statue of one of the Grand Masters of the Order. Its churches are like those which have been before mentioned, with similar decorations in sculpture and painting ; and its fountains are frequent and abundant.

This town is fortified with great strength, and covers a peninsula, which stretches near a mile from the main body of the island into the grand harbour : at the extreme point there is a landing-place, opposite the castle of St. Angelo, which is covered by very strong batteries ; from thence the passage into the town is by a flight of steps, and through a gate, which, as may be supposed, is continually guarded.

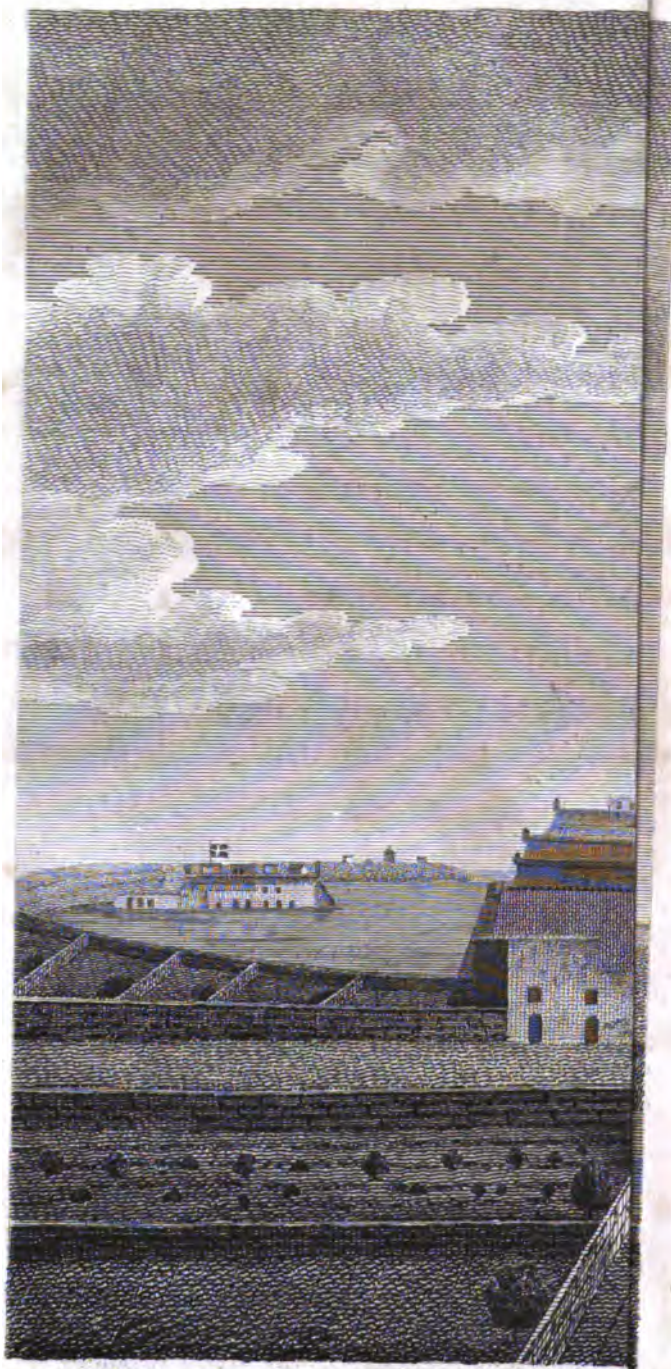
On the quay, and more immediately opposite to Vittoriosa, is a very stately building, which was converted into an hospital for sick and

Dec. 1800.

and wounded seamen ; and fitted up under the direction of General Pigot, for their reception, in a manner worthy of the British Government. The house occupied by Brigadier-General Moncrieff was in this place, and the charming garden belonging to it overlooked that part of the harbour, from where the chain that protects the entrance into the harbour, is thrown across to the point of St. Angelo, where it is fastened, to prevent shipping from getting into this branch of it. This chain is of a prodigious size, and from the manner in which it is fastened, a ship of the largest size, it is said, would be resisted by it ; though this unwieldy precaution seems to be altogether fruitless, as no hostile vessel would ever be able to reach that part of the harbour. In the very mouth of it destruction must await the temerity of any ship, of force the greatest, that should venture to enter with the menace of hostility.

Having given a brief but general description of the dependencies of La Valetta, and having already mentioned the fortifications of FLORIANA. that city, we shall now return to give a more particular account of it, beginning with Floriana, which may be considered as forming a very beautiful suburb to it.

Floriana is connected with, but is situated on, an eminence without the walls of La Valetta ; it consists of several neat, pleasant, but unpaved streets, and commands a magnificent prospect of the Mediterranean sea, with the entrance of the grand harbour, and its predominant circumstances.



Lieu^t E. Anderson del.^t

A View

cumstances. Of the two churches which this place can boast, one, which is situated in the middle of it, presents a large architectural form, with a steeple; while the other, which is placed close to the fortifications that overlook the harbour, has no exterior claim to attention.

Dec. 1800.

This suburb is fortified in every direction, and in such a manner as to bid defiance, if the works are properly manned, to the combined efforts of Europe. Such are the succession of its batteries, the depth of its ditches, the number and calibre of its artillery, and the extent of its mines, that all attack must be rendered fruitless. Before an enemy could reach La Valetta, he must storm five separate fortifications, of such strength as to be separately impregnable.

In this place General Pigot had the use of the Grand Master's garden, which is very large, and surrounded with a stone-wall of twenty feet in height: it was very productive in the fruits and flowers of the climate, and was maintained by General Pigot in the best possible order; so that if the Grand Master should be restored to the situation which he so disgracefully abandoned, he will find his gardens in a very advanced state of improvement and beauty.

On the west side of Floriana, barracks for several regiments appear in the form of a quadrangle, refreshed by a central fountain. After passing through the Port Bomb, which is the entrance from the country, and is defended by a deep ditch, a draw-bridge, and covered

Dec. 1800.

vered archway, you come to another passage of the same description, and having passed that, the main guard presents itself, having a fountain in front of it, which is crowned with a small marble statue; it is situated in the centre of a small neat square, whose surrounding piazzas are employed as a market-place for fruit and vegetables. Almost every house has its garden, which produces abundance of grapes, oranges, figs, and other fruits.

This district, in common with every other, was experiencing the advantages to be derived from the wealth, the jurisprudence, and liberal spirit of the British people. Several new houses were erecting in this place, and other improvements advancing, when the account of the peace arrived. The Maltese were happy beyond expression under the British government, and they did not appear to have a wish but for the continuance of it.

LA VALETTA.

The entrance from Floriana to La Valetta is by a draw-bridge thrown over a ditch of ninety feet in depth, and scooped out of the solid rock: the bridge is flanked on either side by a powerful battery, which no force could resist, even supposing it to be practicable for an enemy to make so near an approach to the city: to the bridge succeeds an archway of fifty feet in length, hewn out of the rock, on one side of which, and formed in the same manner, is a guard-house and officer's room; this gateway is called the Porta Reale, and gives its name to the street that proceeds from it: this stupendous

dous archway supports a small neat house, that commands the whole of Floriana, and a considerable distance beyond it, which is probably intended as a place of observation for the General or Commandant, as occasion may require. On the wings of this building are batteries of immense strength, which join the walls that enclose the city: they are mounted with cannon, and have a commanding front over the Floriana, and the country adjacent.

The gate is supported by two cavaliers of ninety feet in height, bomb-proof, and inaccessible, except by one small narrow passage. They are of uniform appearance, and answer in size and shape to each other. These large magazines of powder and shot are so constructed that no accident can possibly occur to them, as they are formed in the solid rock, and consequently superior to the annoyance of shot or bombs. It appears to me that these two formidable fortifications were originally two immense clumps of rock, and having been shaped down, were afterwards encased with walling. But whether my conjecture is well or ill-founded, they present, in every point, a most tremendous appearance, as they command, in all directions, every fortification in Valetta and its dependencies, with a large extent of the sea, Civita Vecchia, and a considerable portion of the Island; as well from their lofty position, as their own architectural elevation.

These cavaliers are square buildings, their roofs consisting of
S platforms,

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platforms, laid with broad stones, with a parapet wall of about four feet high, mounted on all sides with heavy cannon, though there is ample space for a much greater number, if any emergency should require such an addition.

The city of La Valetta is built on a majestic and lofty peninsula, that extends from N. E. to S. W. and the following streets run in that direction :

1. Strada Reale, which is the principal street of the city, and extends from the Porta Reale to the Castle of St. Elmo.
2. Strada Stretta, which is immediately on its left, but very narrow.
3. Strada di Forni.
4. Strada di Mercanti, which is parallel with the above, and lies on the right of Strada Reale.
5. Strada di Levante, which runs in the same direction, and faces the line wall over the Marino Quay.

The principal streets, which cross those already mentioned, are,

1. Strada di Mezzodi.
2. Strada Britannica.

Two insignificant passages intervene between the latter street and the church of Saint John ; to the right of which there is a street that

that descends to the Marino Gate; and on the left, another that stretches on to the line wall facing Fort Manuel. Dec. 1800.

3. Strada del Teatro.
4. Strada San Christofero.
5. Strada San Dominico.
6. Strada Ospedale.

These are the principal streets of La Valetta, with their natural denominations; the rest do not merit any particular notice.

The French, while they were in possession of Malta, not only endeavoured to republicanize the Maltese, but to give republican names to the very streets: they, therefore, blotted out the ancient titles, and substituted such as accorded with their political views, and the order of things in France. The latter were, however, immediately erased when the British troops took possession of the island, and the old denominations restored, to the great satisfaction and delight of the inhabitants.

In the Strada Reale, or the principal street, there is a very handsome fountain, whose springs are suffered to flow from sun-rise to sun-set, and is appropriated solely to the purpose of watering horses.

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Near the fountain is an arsenal of ordnance stores of every kind, and a large armourer's shop, where we employed a great number of artisans both British and Maltese in the repair of arms, &c. It also contains shot of every description, and cartridges prepared for use, together with all the implements necessary for cannon, both for land and sea-service. To these may be added, immense quantities of ammunition for the service of infantry.

The Maltese appeared to be very well acquainted with the mechanical trades, and formed the major part of our corps of artificers; in which situation they proved themselves equal to the nicer and more difficult branches of their respective professions. The arsenal surrounds no inconsiderable quadrangle, and is bomb-proof in every part where that precaution is necessary.

The Maltese workmen were superintended by a Maltese petty officer, who was under the direction and subject to the controul of Mr. Greenfield, the storekeeper, well-known for his indefatigable and zealous conduct in the public service. They wore the ordnance uniform, and were attached to that department.

Beyond the arsenal and Strada di Mezzodi, two very handsome churches present themselves to the view: they are opposite to each other, and form a part of the street. One of them has a tower filled with

with bells, which are continually chiming, to the great annoyance of those who live in their immediate vicinity.

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In this street, and beyond the church, is a very large hotel, which belonged to one of the knights; but its spacious apartments and fine garden were now applied to the purposes of government. It had sometimes been employed as a magazine for army stores and cloathing; and was occasionally used as barracks for soldiers.

At a small distance is the magnificent church of St. John, which stands in a square, and forms a central point of view to four streets. It is a large plain building, without any striking display of exterior ornament. In the front of the church the area is paved with large flat stones, to the extent of thirty or forty feet; and is inclosed by a small parapet wall with pillars, on the outside of which there is a paved footway for passengers, raised a few inches above the common causeway.

The west front of the church presents two towers, containing bells of uncommon magnitude, which continually announce the unceasing ceremonials of public worship in the building beneath them. The first stroke of the bell from St. John's church, is the general signal for the bells of all the other churches in La Valetta and its dependencies: the whole producing a kind of wide-extended chime, which has rather a pleasing effect.

The

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The interior form and decorations of this church are truly magnificent. The roof, which is finely painted, is supported by a double row of superb columns, about thirty feet in height, and are of a beautiful dark green marble, with black veins. To the right of the altar was a stately throne of crimson velvet, richly decorated with embroidered ornaments; the principal of which are the arms of the order. This was the seat of the Grand Master. The altar, which is profusely enriched, consists of a semi-circular dome, and is lighted from the top.

In a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary, a golden lamp, of large size and great value, had been long suspended by a chain of the metal. It was said to have been formerly brought from Rhodes, and had ever been considered by the people with the most profound veneration. It was considered of so much importance by Bonaparte, that he ordered it to be removed to the place of his residence.

This church was built by the Grand Master La Cassiere, and dedicated by Ludovico Torres, archbishop of Montreal. It was enriched with the presents made every five years by the Grand Master and Priors of the Order.

The first general chapter celebrated at Malta, assigned a chapel in this church to each nation of which the knights are composed. These chapels form the wings to the extensive nave or body of the church,

church, the ornaments of which were gilded with the gold of sequins, at the expence of the Grand Master Cottoner. The paintings are chiefly the works of Matthias Preti, called the Calabrian, whose talents merited the compliment which was paid him of being admitted by courtesy into the list of Italian Knights. Each interval between the pillars is enriched with a picture by this master, representing some act of the life of Saint John.

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The floor of the church is a kind of sepulchral pavement, formed of marble of various colours. It has a most beautiful appearance, and represents the arms, insignia, &c. of the knights, whose names it commemorates in a Mosaic work most curiously composed.

In the chapel, called dell Oratorio, antiently that of the English knights, is a masterly picture by Michael Angelo Caravaggio, but discoloured with smoke.

There is a vault under the altar, which is entered by a descent of sixty-eight steps, and is the magnificent sepulchre of the Grand Masters. Their remains are laid in tombs of the most beautiful marble, with descriptive inscriptions.

The French, with that rapacious spirit which accompanied and disgraced their conquests, stripped this beautiful church of almost the whole of its valuable ornaments: even statues of bronze were pillaged

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pillaged for the mere value of the metal. A very large one of the Grand Master, Cottoner, taken from the entrance of the works which bear his name, was found on board the *Athenian* man of war, when the British forces took possession of La Valetta.

In the same street is the building which contains the Library, but at present it is in a very ruinous state, and supported by strong props of timber. Adjoining to the latter is the Treasury, a large plain building, containing many commodious and suitable apartments. In its principal chamber is a fine *CHRIST* by Albert Durer, and a *Virgin Mary* by Concha.

Opposite to the Treasury is a very handsome modern edifice, called the Conservatorio; it joins the Grand Master's palace, and was intended, previous to the surrender of the island to Bonaparte, for the reception of the public library, which at that time promised to become a very splendid and extensive collection of literature. This establishment was begun in the year 1760, by the Bailli di Tencini, who presented it with nine thousand seven hundred volumes, collected at a very considerable expence. The last general chapter, held in 1776, confirmed this institution, which, under the favourable auspices of the late Grand Master, had been greatly augmented. It was also settled that the books of the knights should on their death be presented as contributions to it.

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This edifice, however, during the period when Malta was subject to the British Government, was employed as a public coffee-room for the British officers, and subject to certain regulations, which were framed for their particular convenience and accommodation. The general apartment was very spacious, and a billiard table was erected in an adjoining chamber. This agreeable institution was supported by the payment of four dollars per annum by each subscriber, which was sufficient to defray the ordinary expences of the rooms, and provide the English newspapers and foreign gazettes. The whole was managed by a committee, of which General Pigot was the president. Prices were regularly fixed to every article; and there was no cause for complaint either as to the quality or the charge of such provisions and refreshments as the place was calculated to afford.

This edifice, with the Treasury, the north front of the Grand Master's palace, and a range of buildings with piazzas, containing shops of various kinds, form a small but handsome quadrangle.

A square is also formed by one front of the Treasury to the north, the main guard to the west, part of the Strada St. Christofero to the south, and the principal front of the Grand Master's palace, with the parade before it, to the east.

This palace stands on the point of the declivity of the Strada Reale, and presents a majestic mass of building, but without

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architectural

Dec. 1800. architectural decoration. It is divided into two interior courts, one of which has a surrounding piazza, where, in very sultry weather, the different guards of La Valetta were assembled and marched off. The apartments are extensive, commodious and magnificent. Some of them are enriched with tapestry hangings of great beauty. The audience chamber is furnished with a stately throne, and canopy of crimson velvet, richly adorned with gold lace, and the arms of the Grand Master in curious embroidery.

The principal paintings in the palace are by two pupils of Giuseppe d'Arpino. The views of the siege of Malta are by Matteo di Lecce. The gallery contains many paintings, the best of which are a CHRIST by Guido, and the Death of Abel by Spagnolet. There are also several bas-reliefs in marble, of great antiquity.

Here the courts of justice are held, and apartments are provided for all the principal officers of the government. At the end of the grand saloon a flight of steps lead to the armoury, around whose walls the arrangement of trophy-work has a very pleasing effect. It consists of arms, both ancient and modern, exhibited in a variety of curious and appropriate devices. There are musquets for twelve thousand men, in good order, with some beautiful field-pieces, and several small models of cannon.

At one end of this superb chamber is a portrait of the Grand
8 Master

Master de Wignacourt, in full armour, by Michael Angelo de Caravaggio; and beneath it is the armour which he wore, and appears to correspond with that represented in the picture. Dec. 1800.

The roof of this palace is a large platform, which affords a beautiful view of La Valetta, with its dependencies, harbours, and distant sea. From a signal or telegraphic tower rising from the roof, and ascended by a stair-case, the coast of Sicily and Mount Etna are distinctly visible, at the distance of sixty leagues. Persons are stationed there, as in our telegraphs, to watch the signals made from the towers in different parts of the island.

Major-General Pigot occupied the north wing, and Sir Alexander Ball, previous to the arrival of Commissioner Cameron, inhabited the south wing of this palace.

The Strada Reale terminates with the castle of St. Elmo, which has been already described. This street is perfectly straight and uniform, no one house or building projecting from its general outlines. It has also a foot-way for passengers, which, with the carriage-way, is conveniently paved.

The next street in point of size and appearance, is the Strada di Mercanti, and commences, on each side, with two noble palaces, the late residence of some of the fugitive knights. One of them

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was used by us as barracks for invalids from the army in Egypt and Malta; the other was occupied as officers' quarters. Another palace, of a similar appearance, and adjoining the former, was occupied by Bonaparte during his stay at Malta, in his way to Egypt. It was afterwards the residence of General Sir Ralph Abercromby, when the ever memorable expedition, commanded by him, was on its way to the same place, and which he rendered a scene of superior glory. The Honourable General Fox, the present Commander in Chief in the Mediterranean, was its next inhabitant.

The public market, which is in a line with this street, is an exact quadrangle, and refreshed by a central fountain. Whether it was sufficiently large for the accommodation of the inhabitants previous to the capture of Malta by the French, I cannot pretend to determine; but when the British troops were in possession of the island, it was not only crowded with shops and stalls of every kind and in every corner, but every avenue became a part of it. When, therefore, the mixture and quantity of articles, such as meat, fowl, fish, fruit, and vegetables, and the great numbers of people crowding in to be supplied with some or other of them is considered, it will naturally be expected that there must be, as there certainly is, a considerable failure in point of cleanliness. Here are also many cooks and wine-shops, where meat, fish and vegetables are dressed, and most generally by frying them in oil. For a few grains, one of which is the fifth part of a Maltese halfpenny, a small fish that resembles our whiting may be

be purchased ready dressed, and a buck horn of wine for three half-pence, which is a measure between an English pint and quart.

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The sales of this market are regulated by an officer of police especially appointed to superintend it, and whose duty it is to prevent frauds of every description, whether they relate to price, weight, measure, or quality. An appeal to him on any occasion that arises, produces an immediate settlement of the dispute, or punishment of the offence.

The Jesuits' College, which is near the market, is a large handsome building, well suited for the purposes of public education, and is in the same state of establishment as the colleges in other Roman Catholic countries.

At the end of this street stands the General Hospital; in one court of which several of the British regiments had their regimental hospitals, adjoining the general one, which was under the immediate care of Doctor Cope, and an establishment of hospital mates for his assistance.

This extensive building fronts the grand harbour, and has a fine clear air from the sea. It contains several large airy halls and extensive chambers for the sick, where the ranges of beds might be quadrupled without inconvenience. Before the late miserable change
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Dec. 1800.

in the affairs and state of this island, this hospital was open to the natives of all countries, and every kind of medical and surgical assistance amply afforded. The knights not only superintended the different parts of its administration, the principal office of which was one of the first dignities of the Order, but frequently attended the sick in their own persons, and with all the care and vigilance of an hospital domestic. At that better period, all the utensils employed in the hospital were of silver, the plainness and simplicity of which, however, announced that such a circumstance was less an object of luxury than a means of preserving cleanliness.

At the termination of the Strada Reale and the Strada di Mercanti, there is a large open space from the ditch before St. Elmo and the Line wall, beneath which are a range of granaries capable of containing a sufficient quantity of grain to supply the garrison for twenty years. They consist of large subterranean circular vaults, chiselled out of the solid rock: they are about thirty or forty feet in depth, and as many in number. The entrance is from a small square hole in the top of the vault, from whence a person descends by a rope when grain is wanted. The hole is then covered up again with a large stone, which is fitted to it, and well cemented to preserve it dry and close from damps and from vermin. The cost and labour of the useful caverns bears a proportion to the rest of the extraordinary works that distinguish this curious spot.

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The Strada di Forni, which branches from the Strada Reale, is wide, well built, and neatly paved. The houses are large, of an elegant appearance, and, in general, the property of the government. There is a public bakehouse in this street, whose extent may be, in some measure, comprehended, when it is added, that an hundred and fifty horses are constantly employed in grinding wheat for its daily demands. A proportionable number of men are employed in feeding the enormous ovens, which in their turn sufficiently supply the numerous inhabitants. The upper part of the building consists of warehouses, which contained an immense quantity of excellent biscuit for the navy, that had been baked here for its consumption.

The troops in garrison were supplied every second day with a very good loaf of two pounds weight for each man from this bakehouse; and each regiment was allowed a cart from the Commissary to convey the bread to its respective quarters.

At the end of a narrow lane, immediately opposite to the public bakehouse, is the Marsa Muschetta gate, beneath which is a descent of about an hundred steps, under a covered way of immense strength, leading to the ditch and draw-bridge over it. Beyond the latter, and close to the water, are the public slaughter-houses, which are built on the outside of the line-wall. They form a plain low building, possessing every convenience which their object requires. All cattle, whether belonging to the government or individuals, must be slaughtered

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slaughtered there; and much do I wish that the mode practised by the Maltese butchers, in slaughtering cattle, was established by law in our own country: nor do I comprehend what sufficient reasons can be assigned for continuing the horrid and inhuman use of the axe, which seems to disgrace the characteristic humanity of the British nation.

The Maltese use, on this occasion, a long pointed, two edged knife or lancet, with which they penetrate the spine behind the horns, and the animal instantly falls motionless to the ground. A rope is fastened round the head to keep it steady, when the operation and its humane effect are visible at one and the same moment.

The Strada di Levante extends from the Marino gate to the Barrier gate, which leads to the battery of St. John and the back gateway of St. Elmo. The principal building in this street, and indeed the only one which merits any particular attention, is the prison appropriated to those criminals whose offences have been found to merit the punishment of slavery. It is a plain extensive building, well adapted to its object, and has no windows but in the front that looks to the harbour; that part being occupied by the Governor and his inferior officers.

This edifice is very lofty, and contains a numerous range of rooms,
which

which are all secured with great strength. There is a large paved court, with a fountain in the middle of it, where the convicts are permitted to walk during the day, when they are not employed in any public work. During their public occupations, a guard and superintendant of the prison constantly attends them. When I considered the populousness of the place, this miserable mansion appeared to be but thinly tenanted. Dec. 1800.

The punishment of death is seldom inflicted in Malta. At the time we were in that island, there had been but one capital punishment for several years, and that was for murder, which receives the same catastrophe as in our own.

Beyond the Marino gate, and on the other side of the ditch, there is a public promenade, which invites the inhabitants to enjoy the freshness of the evening. On a Sunday it is covered with crowds of people, who have few opportunities, but on the Sabbath or the public festivals, to leave the scene of that occupation which gives them bread. The view from this wall comprehends the harbour, enriched with many of those public and striking objects which have been already mentioned.

On the quay beneath it there is a fish-market, which, in general, is well supplied with fish: excellent oysters are found here, and in great abundance.

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Besides

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Besides the Lazaretto there is a quarantine quay on this side of the city, which is fenced in by wooden pallisadoes, where goods are landed, to remain during a stated time, previous to their being sold, or consigned to the warehouse of their owners. There is also a large depot adjoining, for the reception of such merchandize as will suffer by an exposure to the air. It also contains the post-office, for the receipt of all letters brought by ships subject to quarantine, where they undergo the necessary purification previous to their delivery.

Strada del Teatro is the only one of the cross streets which merits the slightest attention. It is uniformly built, neatly paved, and uncommonly clean; as the rain washes away every thing before it to the common sewer that empties itself into the sea. Besides, it is among the offices assigned to the convicts to sweep and clean the streets, when no rain has fallen to supersede their labour.

In this street is the theatre, which indeed has given it the name it bears. This building, which is about the size of the Theatre-Royal in the Hay-Market, has no exterior pretensions; but its interior accommodations are suited to its character. During the Summer season four nights in the week are set apart for Italian operas; and on the remaining evenings comedies in the Maltese language are performed. The Maltese actors, as may be supposed, are natives of the island; but the Italian performers come from Palermo and Naples,

Naples, and several of distinguished eminence were induced to Dec. 1800.
Malta while the English remained in possession of it. The price of
admittance to the British officers was sixteenpence; while the
Maltese paid one-third less; and whenever it was practicable, a
certain proportion of the lower classes was admitted gratis, accord-
ing to a long established and political custom. We who in London,
and even in the principal provincial towns of England, had been
accustomed to so great and such a beautiful variety of theatric
scenery, were surprised to find, in the near vicinity of a country so
celebrated for the arts, that one set of scenes alone served for every
piece: we had, however, no reason to be dissatisfied with the en-
tertainment afforded us by the dramatic exhibitions of Malta.

It would not only be a mark of negligence, but render us liable
to a charge of ingratitude, if we omitted to mention the universal
abundance of water in the city of La Valetta. Each house is provid-
ed with a private cistern, besides those which are appropriated to the
public. The fountain also, which has been already mentioned as
forming a central decoration in the square before the palace, is sup-
plied from an aqueduct that conveys the water from the southern
part of the island. This great and useful work was produced at the
expence, and by the patriotic munificence, of the Grand Master, De
Wignacourt, and extends from Dier Chandal where it commences,
to the fountain that pours forth its waters, being a distance of nine
English miles and an half. It had been greatly injured by the lapse

Dec. 1800. of time; but the late Grand Master, De Rohan, impelled by the same noble and benevolent spirit as the first founder of the work, repaired those parts which required only reparation, and rebuilt the rest. The water is also conveyed into every street by subterraneous channels, which communicate with the public and private cisterns; so that if the rains of winter should be deficient, they may be supplied from the fountain.

Such is the general account which I have been enabled to give of La Valetta and its dependencies, with their stupendous armour of impregnable fortifications. A longer residence and less occupied station than mine would be necessary to produce the minute details of it. That such a place, so formed and so appointed, was surrendered so readily to the army of France, must not be attributed to the prowess of Bonaparte, or a decline in that native courage which had impelled the Maltese to perform those deeds of martial glory which it has been the pride of history to record: for the firmness they afterwards discovered, and the enthusiasm which actuated them against the French invaders, previous to the arrival of any British force, evidently proves, that the native character of the inhabitants of Malta, if rightly impelled and duly directed, would not disgrace the warlike name of their ancestors.

It is now, indeed, well known, that a majority of the Knights were predisposed to forward the designs of Bonaparte; and every arrange-

arrangement made for admitting the French ; so that the people were, in fact, deprived of the power to offer any resistance. A part of the troops, composing the few regiments belonging to the Order, had been purposely sent on leave of absence into the country; and every other means were employed, by deranging the œconomy of the garrison, to advance the design which had been previously settled, of yielding to the French a quiet possession of the place. Dec. 1800.

I shall now proceed to give such an account of the island at large, with its interior parts and character, as I could derive from my opportunities of information and inquiry.

Citta Vecchia, which, as has been already mentioned, is situated in the centre of the island, was its ancient metropolis. It is the seat of a bishop, and possesses some remarkable buildings, among which are the Palazzo Magistrale, and the Cathedral. CITTA VEC-
CHIA.

In a vault beneath the church are now seen the mouldering forms of several monks, who, till the arrival of the French, were the officiating priesthood. Their brief, extraordinary, and lamentable history is as follows :

Soon after Bonaparte left this island to conduct his expedition to Egypt, a French garrison was marched into Citta Vecchia, whose first object was, as usual, to pillage the public buildings, and plunder

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the inhabitants; and when they found resistance, massacre and bloodshed accompanied their rapine. When, therefore, they began to despoil this venerable edifice, the monks fled for safety into the adjoining catacombs, and being lost in their subterranean mazes, were starved to death: nor were they found, till after the enraged peasantry had risen to revenge their wrongs; when, after a plentiful massacre of the French, they drove the rest to the shelter of La Valetta.

The inhabitants of Citta Vecchia, to perpetuate the hatred of this act of sacrilege, as well as of the people who practised it, have placed the bodies of these pious victims in a vault beneath the church, where they appear in the dress of their Order, and in the attitudes in which they were found dead in the catacombs.

The Maltese manifested the first disposition to revolt, at the moment when the French were in the act of pillaging this church.—A garrison, consisting of about an hundred men, was attacked, and the greater part of them destroyed. The Commandant, also, was thrown from the balcony of the house in which he resided. The French, alarmed at this spirited act of resentment, immediately withdrew their men from the different parts of the country, and retired within the walls of La Valetta. The design of an insurrection to take place in that city had been formed; but such precautions were employed by the French as to prevent it from being carried into execution.

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Lieut. Anderson del.

A View of Valletta and the Fortifications of

1. Fort S. Elmo.
2. Light House at S. Elmo.
3. Nuove (or New) Caserne.
4. Madonna del Pilar.
5. S. Domenico.
6. Il Carmine.
7. Palazzo — or Grand Masters Palace, now occupied by Genl. Piant & Com. Cameron.
8. Chiesa Maggiore de S. Giovanni.

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The island may be described by two unequal divisions; the one on the east, and the other on the west of Citta Vecchia. Dec. 1800.

All the cazals, or small towns, are situated on the eastern side, as that of the west, which is very inferior in point of extent, contains only a small number of country houses. This part displays many beautiful and picturesque views, but the small quantity of places of residence which is to be found there, and its unwholesome air, discourages any attempt to engage in the toil of cultivation.

The twenty-two cazals in the eastern part, are Dingli, Moster, Ghargul, Itard, Zebug, Balzan, Lia, Bircarcara, Qurmi, Paula, Seggevi, Qrendi, Zorrick, Quercop, Gudia, Mequobba, Luca, Tarscieu, Zabbar, Zeitun, and Ghasciak.

In order to give something of an intelligible account of the places most worthy of notice on this side of the island, I shall adopt the tour of it, and give the several places in succession; beginning with casal Dingli, the most southern part of the island.

Dingli—This cazal derives its name from an ancient Maltese family.

Il Bosehetto—A country residence of the Grand Master.

The gardens of the Bishop.

Ghar Kbir—A large and spacious grotto, which has long been the habitation of whole families of peasants.

Bir

Dec. 1800. *Bir Zegrella*—A spring which is supposed to possess medicinal qualities.

Necrice—A small village.

El Mitarfa—An hill, which, according to the tradition of the country, was once crowned with a pagan temple. The notion is that it was dedicated to Proserpine.

Kibar el Thut—The sepulchre of the Jews.

Mosta—A small calzal.

Baydur el Blat—This spot was made the rallying point of the Turks, in 1566, when, after having been obliged to raise the siege of Malta, they erected a standard to collect their troops who were hurrying in disorder to the sea.

Har Aheefil—A deserted village.

Ghargul—Casal Gregory.

Uyed el Dis, Uyed el Gamit, Uyed el Klir—Three valleys, planted with trees and vines.

Manna et Bordi—Inconsiderable villages.

Attard—A calzal which is indebted for its name to a Maltese family.

Tabria—A fief, where the Grand Master Lascaris ordered water-mills to be constructed.

Zebug—It is distinguished with the title of the city of Rohan, and is the most populous of the calzals.

Santa Maria tal Chilas—A church which is held in great veneration by the Maltese, and whose shrine is particularly addressed by women in a state of pregnancy.

Sant

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Sant Antonio—A villa of the Grand Master.

Babzah—A village surrounded with plantations of olive and almond trees.

Lia—Thus named from a Maltese family.

Aarar—An ancient village, but entirely abandoned, from its being exposed to the attacks and pillage of Corsairs.

The Church of St. Julian—

Bircarcara—This casal is distinguished by its collegiate church.

Hal-Capras—An abandoned village.

Qurmi—It has received great advantages from its vicinity to the city of La Valetta, and is sometimes called Casal Fornaro, from the great quantity of bread which is baked there.

Ayen Filep—A spring which formerly furnished ships with water.

Kortin—An elevated spot ; at the foot of which, in the year 1729, were discovered some vestiges of ancient baths.

Corradini—Stables belonging to the Grand Master.

Paula—Formerly called Casal Nuovo.

Farrugi—A small village.

Siggevi—The name of this place signifies repose.

The Ruins of Ghorghenti—

Ghartutta—A grotto, in whose vicinity are the ruins of buildings, formed of very huge and enormous stones.

Santa Maria tal Kneis—An ancient Greek church.

Hagiar Kan—Another ruin of an edifice, which, from the vast

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size

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size of its stones, has been considered, by popular credulity, as the architecture of giants.

Makluba—A curious and deep excavation, which contains a garden.

Zorrick—This word signifies blue, and the name of the Casal is said to be occasioned by the remarkable circumstance, that the inhabitants in general have eyes of that colour: they are the most active sportsmen of the island.

Birkakra—A large village.

Sasi—This village, the name of which signifies untainted, as it was the only one that escaped the contagion which infected the island in the year 1676.

Luca—This Casal is situated above the Bay which terminates the harbour, and is inhabited principally by masons.

Tarscien—This place derives its name from Tarsis, or Carthage, and is supposed to be the spot chosen by the Carthaginians, who are said to have established themselves in Malta.

Zabbar—

Affielli—Famous for its honey.

Zcitun, or *Biskallin*—The last name signifies the sons of Sicilians, and is supposed to be derived from certain Sicilian emigrants who resided here.

Ghascia—The name of this Casal signifies pleasure.

Char Dalman—A spacious grotto.

Kasar—The ruins of a citadel built by the Arabs.

This route is not practicable in a calash, or a carriage drawn by a mule, but must be performed on horseback, though in some parts it is necessary to proceed on foot. Dec. 1800.

The inhabitants of Gozo, before its coasts were guarded by towers, were obliged every evening to retire within the castle, to guard against pirates, who frequently disembarked in the night, and carried off all those who slept in the country. Gozo.

The road leading to the castle winds round a rock ; and the town annexed to it is called Rabatto.

This island contains six cazals ; Gharb, Nadar, Quaccia, Sannat, Scieuquia, and Zebug.

It is a fertile spot, with fine pastures, and the grapes which it produces, in great abundance, supply Malta with that delicious fruit.

There is a daily communication between the two islands by means of large boats, which arrive in the morning at La Valetta, and return in the evening with the produce of their cargoes.

A building, called the Giants' Tower, the ruins of which are seen at Gozo, has an undoubted claim to the highest antiquity. The custom of forming edifices with stones of immense size, heaped on

Dec. 1800. each other without cement, has been generally attributed to very remote ages; and without remarking on the pyramids of Egypt, monuments similar to the Giants' Tower are to be found in various parts of Europe.

This building appears to have been circular in the centre, with walls branching from it in four different directions: the remains of the central part, as well as the other ruins, are composed alternately of a long flat stone placed horizontally on its edge, and of one much thicker in a perpendicular direction. There are evident marks of regular design and connection in every part of the work; and the stones are very superior, in point of size, to those of Stonehenge on Salisbury Plain.

**MALTA
and
GOZO.**

The population of the islands of Malta and Gozo has generally been supposed to amount to 90,000 souls: but as, during the time the French were in possession of the Castle of Gozo, the inhabitants of that island, including all descriptions of people, were found to amount to 16,000, it is probable that the population of the two islands exceeds the ordinary calculation.

The soil of Malta is not suffered to remain untilled; it is sown every year, and the produce is abundant. The earth, which varies in colour in different parts of the island, is in no place more than a foot in depth; nor is it ever watered in summer, except by the nightly dews;

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dews; but the rock, being of a porous nature, gathers and retains a certain degree of humidity every ten years the earth is raised, and the surface of the rock broken with a sharp instrument, to destroy a sort of crust which spreads over it, and obstructs the penetration of the water.

The ground thus prepared, produces, in the first year, water melons and garden plants; the second, excellent melons which keep during the winter, and are known by the name of Malta melons; and afterwards barley, which is cut for feeding cattle: the third year, the ground is prepared for planting cotton; and in the following year corn is sown: such is the constant rotation in this island of cultivating the ground. For the purpose of planting cotton, the ground is prepared in a very particular manner, by reducing it almost to a powder.

The Maltese cultivate three sorts of cotton; that which is natural to the country, the cotton of Siam, and that of a light-brown colour, from the West Indies; each sort is planted in the month of April, and towards the beginning of September, the head of the plant is cut, to increase the size of the pod, which is generally gathered in October. Wheat is sown in the month of November, after the ground has undergone three ploughings, and gathered in the beginning of June.

Barley

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Barley is sown in November, and cut in May. There is also a species of grain known by the name of Tommonia, which grows in poor ground, and whose flour produces very white bread : it is sown in February.

The fields are separated by stone walls, which secure the plants equally against the winds and violent rains of the spring and autumn.

Necessity has impelled the Maltese to clothe the naked parts of the island with an artificial soil, in the following manner: they smooth the surface of the rock, giving it, at the same time, a slight declivity, to carry off the superfluous water; they then form a layer of stones, broken into small pieces of about a foot thick, which they cover with a thinner bed of the same, beat very small; a layer of earth is then added, brought from some other part of the island, or found in the clefts of the rock, and sometimes even imported from Sicily; a coat of dung then follows, which being also covered with earth, the process of this artificial soil is completed; which, assisted by time and the attention of the proprietor, acquires a fertility, in a great measure, equal to that of the native earth.

Malta and Gozo produce excellent fruits and vegetables, as well as beautiful flowers. The roses are particularly esteemed for a fragrance peculiar to these islands.

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The gardens of Malta are shaded by groves of the orange and the citron ; but the trees are not suffered to reach their natural height, as the winds would destroy the fruit, and break the branches.

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In all the principal gardens large cisterns are formed to supply them with water.

The principal commerce of Malta consists in cotton, which it exports both in the thread, and a manufactured state. The returns from Spain are made in money, and the merchants, by sending to France the dollars which they receive in payment, gain a very considerable advantage by the merchandize brought back from Marseilles. Other articles of native produce, though apparently inconsiderable, are nevertheless objects of commercial attention. Their Kaligmagnum is exported to Venice, their Lichen to Sicily, and their Oranges to several markets.

The following is a correct account of the Territorial Revenues and Commercial Duties collected within the islands of MALTA, GÖZO, and COMINO, previous to the occupation of La Valetta by the French in the year 1798 :

I. Estates

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	<i>Scudi.</i>	<i>Tarli.</i>	<i>Grains.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1. Estates allotted to the Grand Master.....	81,756	8	13.....	8,175	13	5½
2. Estates belonging to the Treasury, or <i>Commun</i> <i>Tesoro</i>	9,721	7	15.....	972	3	3½
3. Estates of different Foundations, become the property of the Government.....	78,328	7	5.....	7,832	17	2
4. Estates belonging to the respective Tongues	10,884	4	12.....	1,088	8	9
5. Estates formerly belonging to the College of the Jesuits.....	6,189	8	0.....	618	19	4
6. Interest of Money lent by Government upon Mortgage	1,756	1	1.....	175	12	2
7. Customs	1,00,000	0	0.....	10,000	0	0
8. Excise on Wine	50,000	0	0.....	5,000	0	0
9. 3½ per Cent. on the Sale of real Property	8,900	0	0.....	800	0	0
	3,46,637	1	6.....	34,663	14	2

Climate. The very curious and interesting account which I shall now give of the climate of this island, is the result of repeated experiments made by a very scientific naturalist, the Commandant de Dolomieu, in the winter of 1780.

The thermometer of Reaumur is generally during the summer in Malta, below 25, and very seldom above 28. In winter it is very rarely below the eighth degree from the freezing point.

The time when the heat or cold is most particularly felt, is not when the thermometer marks either of the extreme points of our temperature : there is almost a continual contrast between our sensations

sations, and the instruments which measure the true temperature of the air, between the heat which is felt, and that which is real.

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The directions of the winds, and their variations, produce an instantaneous change from hot to cold, and the reverse: the wind from the north or north-west always occasions cold, and that from the south produces heat.

The north-west wind gives the greatest degree of clearness to the air; that from the north-east renders it less clear, and that clearness considerably declines when it changes to the south-east or south; but increases in a small degree at the south-west, which is generally the time when the sea is in the most active state of agitation.

The winds from the north-west are rendered salubrious by the great extent of sea which they traverse: those from the north would undergo an alteration in Italy and Sicily, if the strong vegetation of those fine countries did not tend to purify the atmosphere.

The winds from the south are rendered unwholesome, by passing over the sandy and burning continent of Africa, where there is little or no vegetation; or the heat is so excessive, that every thing capable of rarefaction on the ground, forms exhalations that im-

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pregnate

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pregnate the atmosphere: they are not purified in their passage over the sea, from the narrow state of the channel; and the water being under the shelter of the land, has not sufficient agitation to absorb, by its motion, the mephitical miasma which the air contains. The cold, which is sometimes extremely sharp during the winter, is occasioned by the very clear air from the north. During the summer, when the wind is at south-west, the alteration in the usual clearness of the air is such, that if it were to change a few degrees more, it would be impossible to respire; and a dense atmosphere, formed by insensible perspiration, would occasion suffocation.

The winds from the south do not continue for more than two or three days at a time, when they are succeeded by calms, during which the heat is very great, but less oppressive and suffocating, although the thermometer at that time often indicates a real heat much more considerable. The air is then more salubrious, and breezes from the sea, both by day and night, refresh the atmosphere, bringing with them a pure air from the surface of the water, and raising on it a gentle motion. In the morning there are breezes which blow off the land, which, though they may be less pure, are agreeably refreshing.

When the wind changes from south to north, a lightness and ease of respiration is experienced which is altogether astonishing. It is
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a certain fact, that the air becomes from twenty to twenty-five degrees purer in an instant, and often more, although the thermometer does not experience the least alteration.

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The use of liquors, cooled by ice, is extremely grateful during the Sirocco winds, and, while it refreshes and strengthens the system, assists digestion ; so that snow at Malta is an object of the first necessity. It is brought from Sicily, and considered as medicinal for the sick ; and when the reservoirs for keeping it are become low, it is appropriated altogether for the use of the hospital.

The young people also, to prevent the ill effects of the Sirocco, plunge into the water, and come out, by degrees, without wiping themselves ; so that the humidity attached to the skin may evaporate. Thus the vapours are at once carried off, and with them a part of the heat to which they serve as conductors, together with the particles of insensible perspiration.

The islands of Malta, Gozo, and Comino, are composed of a calcareous rock, so that a few petrefactions, and a few chalky concretions, are the only fossil productions which they offer to the Naturalist. They are evidently the fragments of a more considerable land which extended towards the S. S. W. and it is probably owing to the solidity of their substances, that they have resisted those violent causes which have destroyed the other parts of the country to

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which they were attached. Those who have studied the natural state of these islands, reason in the following manner on this curious subject.

The island of Malta narrows as it lengthens from the E. S. E. to the N. N. W. In the same directions Comino and Gozo are successively placed, which are separated from each other by a narrow channel.

In order to obtain a correct idea of Malta, its surface must be considered as a plane inclining from the S. S. W. to the N. N. E. in such a manner that the calcareous strata, of which it is almost entirely composed, running nearly parallel to each other, ascend towards the S. and S. E. where they form precipices of near two hundred fathom in height, and projecting over the sea. On the opposite side of the island these strata insensibly decline, till they become level with the water. The direction of the lines, and their exact correspondence with each other on the opposite sides of the vallies, evidently prove that such was the form of the island, at the time when the settling of the sea ceased to accumulate the substances that compose it: but since that period it appears to have undergone great changes; the regularity of this work has been altered, a great part of the surface has been destroyed, and these parallel and formal strata have been so defaced and washed away by repeated torrents, that it is difficult, amidst the appearance of disorder which the hills,

hills, gulphs and vallies at this time present, to find the system which unites them, and must indicate the cause of their formation. Dec. 1800.

The part of the island which is the least uneven, possesses the greater breadth, is the least defaced, and is, at the same time, elevated ground, is at the east of the city of La Valetta.

These advantages have drawn towards it a greater number of inhabitants, and consequently have been the means of increasing its cultivation ; but here, as well as throughout the island, the rock is naturally bare, where the inhabitants have not provided a bed of earth to facilitate vegetation.

The gulphs and principal vallies have an uniform direction from the S. S. W. to the N. E. These openings have been made in the rocks by currents of water that have descended from the higher grounds. The vallies extend to the sea in that part where the coast is level with it ; and form those fine harbours which render this island of such importance to commerce and navigation. Some smaller vallies have also been excavated in an opposite direction to the large ones, by emptying their waters into them : such are those whose openings form the different ports communicating with that of the city, which, by a gentle curve, extends to the valley of the marsh, of which it is a continuation.

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This valley, which is, at the same time, the largest and most fertile of the island, was anciently occupied by the sea, which reached to Casal Fornaro, even at no very remote period; but the soil and fragments of rocks washed down from the higher ground, the labour of man, and above all the settling of the substances brought in from the sea with a North East wind, have, by degrees, filled it up.

In the course of time the bottom of the harbour will undergo the same change, which might be hastened by means of dykes and basons; wherein the sea, always calm, would lodge the substances that are at present suspended by its agitation. This has happened, without any design to produce it, in the small valley called the Little Marsh, and which, in a short time, will be entirely filled up. By this, however, is to be understood the bottom of the bay, which forms the harbour, and decreases gradually in depth, till it is lost in the valley just mentioned; for the harbour, properly speaking, consists of two coves, surrounded with quays, close to which the water is sufficiently deep for ships of war, and care will, no doubt, be taken to keep it in that beneficial state.

The vallies that run from east to west are the largest and deepest: a very large one passes below the Casals Mosta, Nasciar, and Ghargul: it is edged, on the right, by a chain of steep rocks, which traverse the breadth of the island, and divide it into two parts.

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This natural division, which has been made subservient to the defence of the island, by fortifying the rocks with intrenchments, has been, in some measure, respected by the industry of the inhabitants; for on all this side of the western part there is not a single village, and a very small portion of cultivation.

The harbour or bay of Melleha penetrates in such a manner into the interior; that it almost divides the island, which, in this part, becomes very narrow. This circumstance has induced the very probable conjecture, that the straits which insulate Comino are nothing more than a continuation of two vallies, the upper part of which has disappeared: such would be the two ports which flank La Valetta, if the part of the island which lies above La Pieta, and Casal Nuovo, should, by any means, be destroyed.

The land of Gozo is much higher than that of Malta, and the coasts are defended by perpendicular rocks of a frightful appearance; the loftiest of which are towards the south and west. Those which guard the parts of Malta, opposite to Gozo and Comino, correspond with the rocks of those islands. Some vallies which are in the same direction with those of Malta, do not form ports to this island on account of the high land that surrounds them. Its surface is less uneven than that of Malta, and consequently better adapted for cultivation: it appears, indeed, that the upper bed was originally, in a great degree, horizontal; but in both islands the

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the rock is of the same nature. In each of them there are hills, either insulated or connected with others, whose summits are remarkably flat and level; and it is very perceptible that these summits formed a part of the original surface, as they are covered with stones much harder, more heavy, and of a closer grain than the rest. The under-beds are of different consistencies, and more or less subject to decay, according to their exposure to the air. Some of these beds are composed of a ferruginous sand, feebly cemented with a chalky glutinous substance. On the opposite sides of the steep rocks of Malta, and in the hollow spaces which separate the hills in Gozo, there are some little hillocks, of a greyish clay, which does not appear to be natural to the places where it is found; and must have accumulated after the excavation of the vallies. The rains, to which these hillocks offer but a weak resistance, have moulded and formed them into the figures they possess.

Hence it becomes a curious question respecting the origin of the clay found in Malta and Gozo; how it can have surmounted the precipices of the last island, if it did not previously form a part of some elevated ground, from whence it must have descended. Conjecture may also be awakened respecting the red clay, a sort of virgin earth, which fills the perpendicular clefts of the rocks. The waters which have hollowed out the vallies, must have flowed in great abundance, having had the force to make such an impression on the rock, which, though not of the hardest nature, must nevertheless have offered a considerable

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considerable resistance. The island, in its present extent, can never have produced such torrents, when the heaviest rains in winter form nothing more than small momentary rivulets in the bottoms of the vallies: nor can the sharp rocky precipices have been naturally formed by a mass accumulated from the successive deposits of the sea. There is every reason to believe that the island of Malta must have been part of a mountain, and that the rocky precipices which bound it to the south, east and west, could not have been formed but by the sinking and destruction of all the substances which were attached to them, as the water beneath is of a profound depth.

All round the coasts of the three islands are evident marks of violence; and the rocks, at some distance from the coast, are the fragments of the part which has been destroyed. In one word, the form of these islands, all the local circumstances, and a number of particular phenomena, prove that a great extent of land must have existed towards the south and west; and that the destruction of the part removed has been effected by a convulsion contrary to the common order of things. It appears that this destructive power must have proceeded from the west, and that it has acted most forcibly against the part attached to Gozo.

Amongst those means which philosophy has discovered in nature, capable of producing such effects, the most probable to which these

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circumstances can be attributed, is an immense mass of water put in motion by a counterpoise of earth. The first lands that presented themselves were borne away by the shock which acted on Gozo, forming its present circular figure, and scooping out the steep precipices at the feet of the rocks which offered the greatest resistance, like those of Cape St. Demetrio. It carried away and destroyed all that portion of the mountain uniting the three islands, depositing them by the immersion of the vegetable earth, of which nothing remains but some small portions in the cavities and cliffs of the rock, where it was sheltered from the fury of the floods.

Gozo, by its position, covered and defended Malta; and preserved the coast towards the north, from the devastation experienced by that of the south. Italy and Sicily clearly display the terrible effects of similar operations of nature.

That Malta has been diminished in its extent, long since it has possessed a considerable degree of population, is evident from the tracks of wheels at the utmost extremities of the cliffs. It indeed often happens that large portions of the rock frequently give way, from the fretting of the sea, or the spontaneous destruction of the beds of stone below.

The stones taken from Malta and Gozo have all, more or less, a disposition to be destroyed by the air. They experience a sort of saline

saline efflorescence which reduces them to powder. This effect is hastened by particular situations and accidents. The stones exposed to the south are much sooner brought to a state of decay than those of any other aspect: but the sea water has a still greater effect on them; a single washing is sufficient to cause a disposition to rottenness, which is soon followed by decay, infecting, as it were, the neighbouring stones, and which would extend to an whole rock, or to a building in which the materials were used.

In the steep parts of Malta and Gozo, there are many very spacious grottoes and caves; some of them are on a level with the sea, in which the echo of the roaring water, when in a state of violent agitation, produces a very singular and awful effect: others have their places of entrance at different heights, and are consequently difficult of access; while others cannot be entered but by cords suspended from the top. One of the most considerable which can be visited, is towards a point near the Bay of Marsa Sirocca, whose length and extent has obtained it the name of the great cave, penetrating more than two hundred paces under the land. These grottoes are, all of them, decorated with chrystallisations, produced by water filtrating through the rock.

It is to the sinking-in of one of those caverns that the singular and curious excavation called Makluba, which signifies overthrown, near Casal Zorick, must be attributed. It is a circular or rather an

Dec. 1800. { oval cavity; upwards of an hundred feet in depth, and in the form of a broken cone. Its situation is upwards of an hundred feet from the southern coast, and at a small distance from the cliffs. The area below is ninety-five paces in the longest diameter, and eighty in the shortest; the opening above is about twenty paces. The sides are composed of strata, which have the usual direction from south to north; and such is their regularity, that the whole wears the appearance of a regular excavation. The lower beds are corroded in the same manner as the rocks which are exposed to the agitation of the water, their surfaces being unequal and full of holes, but have, notwithstanding, a kind of polish, and are harder than the rest of the stone. The upper beds, on the contrary, are corroded in the same manner as all the other rocks of Malta, exposed to the air alone, and very different from those below. The vegetable earth in the cavern is so deep, that though it has been dug to a considerable depth, a bottom has not yet been found.

It is therefore very natural to conjecture that the present appearance has been occasioned by the falling-in of a great cavern communicating with the sea; nor is it probable that the period of this accident is remote, as there is every reason to believe that habitations had been built upon the place that has given way, from a cistern or well fifty feet deep, which is still visible in a steep part of the cave, where the stairs have been made which form the descent into it. It was probably of a much greater depth, but has been probably filled up

up with the earth of some adjoining slopes. The opening of this excavation is in an hollow, or what may be considered as a small valley. Dec. 1806.

There are also found in different parts of Malta, and particularly at Benhisa, near Marsa Sirocca, fragments and detached pieces of burned stone full of small holes. When rubbed, it emits a very strong and disagreeable smell, and, if dissolved in boiling acids, throws up a thin oily scum of a black colour, by which this unpleasant odour is produced.

The dialect spoken in Malta and Gozo is rather a Patois than a real language. The following version of the Pater Noster is a specimen of the manner in which it is at present written: and here it may be remarked, that the affinity between this language and that spoken on the coast of Barbary is so great, that the natives of each are reciprocally intelligible to each other.

“ Missierna li inti fis emeuit, jitkadden ismech. Tigi saltnatech
 “ icun li trid int chif fis sema heg da ff-ard. Hhobzna ta cholium
 “ attina il-lum u ahfrilna dnubietna chif ahhna nahhfou lil min khat
 “ ghalina u leddakhal na fi tigrif izzda ahhtisna middeai. Amen.”

The language spoken by the first inhabitants of Malta has been unavoidably lost in the frequent revolutions which the island has experienced

Dec. 1800. perience by its continual change of masters. The Greeks, when they drove out the Phœnicians, at the same time destroyed their language: and if the Carthaginians again introduced it, the Romans, whose ambition led them to erase the very name of Carthage, certainly did not suffer the Phœnician idiom to be continued in a country whither they came with a design to conquer it. The Goths and Vandals, who followed, in giving a new language to the island, so entirely defaced the old, that the Greeks of the lower empire, who succeeded to their power, were regarded at Malta as absolute strangers.

At length the Arabs appeared among them, and the Maltese, as usual, adopted the idiom of the conquerors, with the reservation of a few Greek expressions. Enslaved, in the course of time, by new masters, their language received additional variations. The pronunciation of the Arabic became altered by this mixture; and the inhabitants not having at this time either commerce, or other incentives to emulation in science, lost, with the use of writing, the knowledge also of the Arabic alphabet, which, it is most probable, they had adopted.

To write, therefore, the present language, they have recourse to foreign characters; and every new book of orthography, by multiplying the letters, or by other methods, endeavours to instruct the reader in the true pronunciation. This inconvenience, however, is

the less felt, in consequence of the language being confined to the island, and the distance from one town to the other being so small as to render all written correspondence altogether unnecessary. It is, nevertheless, a desirable object that this uncertainty should be done away by an invariable use of the same alphabet.

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The Maltese have a great number of adages and proverbial expressions, which they anciently introduced in their conversation; but the knowledge of Italian poetry, introduced by the use of that language, has entirely obliterated the national verse. At present the Maltese compositions are but bad imitations of the Italian, without originality of style, or peculiarity of expression. They are, in fact, nothing more than the attempts of certain improvisatori, who, on festivals, receive contributions for their talent of repeating extemporaneous verses, which are heard, admired for the moment, and forgotten.

The history of Malta, which must naturally involve all those events that finally ended in the singular institution whereby it was governed, till it was traitorously surrendered to the French, would itself employ a volume, and does not come within the design of this work. Its ancient government was then overturned, and, when the English took possession of the island, it continued to remain in a state of suspension.

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Dec. 1800.

In this kind of interregnum the means of observing the manners or customs of the people were very much curtailed. It ought, however, to be noticed, and with some degree of exultation on our part, that, on the departure of the French, whom the Maltese execrated and abhorred, and whom, from their spirit of pillage, oppression, and tyranny, they had ample reason to execrate and abhor, they found themselves so happy under the just and benevolent government of Great Britain, and were treated with such a contrasted mildness and generosity by a British garrison, that they soon recovered from the painful submission and despair which they had so long suffered, and returned to those habits and occupations of domestic life, which can alone be happily enjoyed or followed in a state of real security and protection. Nor did these wishes, as will hereafter appear, ever look to a change of their condition under the benign sway of the British Government.

They found, indeed, a new state of things, immediately on the evacuation of their country by the French. Their new conquerors came not to rob, to plunder, or destroy; to add insolence to oppression, or sacrilege to injustice; but to save, to console, and to protect; to heal the wounds which they had received; to indulge them in their native habits; to allow their ancient customs; to give full scope to the exercise of their religion, in all its ceremonies and superstitions; and even to renew those acts of solemn rejoicing, which had been allowed to dignify the devotions under the government of the

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Order. The discharge of artillery was again ordered to accompany, Dec. 1800.
as at that period, the solemnization of their principal festivals.

To relate the proceedings of their religious solemnities; the processions by day and the illuminations by night, with the splendid fire-works that enlivened the pious joy of their sacred anniversaries; to describe their fastings and acts of penitence, and represent the groups of devotees, who, at certain seasons, were seen dragging their voluntary chains, and inflicting voluntary punishments, in order to obtain remission of their sins; would be little more than an history of those superstitions which Popery, in its present enlightened state, has ceased to encourage.

During the time that I had the honour of serving in the garrison of Malta, those objects which were more particularly calculated to attract the notice of a stranger, had been greatly diminished from the previous circumstances in which it had been involved. Its curious and singular government was no more; its Grand Master and its Knights had either fled, or were scattered abroad; in short, its peculiar manners and ancient customs were, in a great measure, passed away and dissolved; and we lived at Malta as in any other distant fortress.

I shall not, however, refrain from relating some particulars of

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Dec. 1800. the manners and habits of the Maltese people, as they presented themselves to my observation.

Of the domestic life and private manners of the higher orders of the Maltese, I shall not pretend to give a particular description, as our communications with them were confined to public assemblies. We were continually invited to balls during the winter, when dancing, with a profusion of confectionary and Sicilian wines, composed the entertainment. To their dinners or suppers we were never invited, which did not, however, appear to proceed from an inhospitable disposition, but arose more probably from the narrow state of their finances, as an income equal to four hundred pounds sterling was the largest in the island, except that of the bishop.

The Maltese are a very industrious people, being educated to labour and active employment from their cradles ; nor are they ever seen in a state of inactivity, but when they are engaged in the duties of their religion, which, however, must appear to the more enlightened professors of Christianity to occupy too large a portion of their time.

The staple manufacture of Malta is the cotton which it produces. It is both white and of a dingy yellow ; but principally of the latter colour.

colour. Of this material they weave a narrow cloth of about half an ell wide, which has no variety but of plain and striped.

Dec. 1800.

The number of people which are employed in this fabric is very considerable, as almost every house contains a loom, and every loom is in continual occupation. The women, as well as the men, are employed in its several branches, from the teasing of the cotton to the completion of the piece. They may, indeed, be frequently seen alternately engaged in teasing, spinning, and weaving. They spin both with the spindle and the wheel, and the female manufacturers are generally heard to cheer their toil with airs of a pleasing and sprightly melody.

The rearing of poultry forms no inconsiderable branch of trade among the middling and lower classes of the people. The quantity of fowls and eggs which this domestic commerce produces is incredible. At almost every door a large wicker basket contains a cackling family, which is only for a short time of the day permitted to range in liberty; as they are accustomed to this state of confinement from the time that they are hatched, they feel an attachment to it, and a kind of chirping noise from their owners calls them back with eager haste to their wicker habitations. This useful traffic does not interfere with, and adds its profits to, those of other occupations.

Dec. 1800.

The wood-cutters form a peculiar description of hardy and useful labourers. The only fuel in this island is wood, which is brought from Sicily and Naples; and as it is of a very hard texture, it becomes an act of necessity to split or cut it into small pieces for firing. These men, who are more numerous than may be imagined, are armed with an axe and a saw, with a chissel and a wedge; and thus equipped, they pass through the streets, making known their want of employment to the inhabitants by a certain kind of cry peculiar to their occupation. It is a long and laborious exertion of their art which gains them a sum equal to eightpence of our money.

The fishery also employs a considerable number of this industrious people. The Maltese are very expert both with the net and the line, as it appears from the plenty as well as variety of fish with which the markets abound.

There is another occupation which gives bread to a great number of the Maltese, and is that of selling goat's milk and butter. In the morning and evening the milkmen drive their goats through the streets, and stop to milk them at the houses of their respective customers. Of this useful animal there are great numbers in every part of Malta, and, like the poultry already mentioned, are seen as living attendants at the doors of the houses.

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The Scripture image of the ox that treadeth out the corn is realized in this island. It is a practice which probably derives its origin from the Arabs, who formed a principal part of its former inhabitants, and an intermixture of whose language is still perceptible in the vulgar tongue of Malta. The ears of grain being strewed on a flat piece of ground, cattle are then introduced, yoked together, who are led to and fro till the grain is separated from the husk. Dec. 1800.

There is, perhaps, no country in the world where its inhabitants have such an upright carriage of their figure as those of Malta. This graceful circumstance proceeds from the peculiar manner in which they direct the shape of their infant children. No sooner is a child born, than it is placed between two pieces of board, which reach from the feet to the neck, and are attached to the body of the infant with rollers of linen, but in such a manner as not to produce pain or impede the circulation. In this manner the Maltese children are universally treated, till they are able to walk; and thus they acquire that erect gait which never forsakes them.

“ That there is no other provision for the poor than the benevolence of individuals, appears from the great number of beggars which infest the streets. This indeed has been a complaint which
7 travellers

Dec. 1860. travellers have frequently made in the great towns of Roman Catholic countries. Among these mendicants, the proportion of those in a state of blindness is very great; a circumstance which must proceed from the sandy surface of the island, and the continual and glaring reflection of an ardent sun on such a white mass of rock.

In La Valetta there are a great many two-wheeled carriages for hire, which are numbered as in London. They are of a very clumsy construction, of a square shape, and large enough to contain six persons. With this unwieldy machine, and so loaded, one horse or a mule will go at the rate of four or five miles an hour. The latter, however, are more generally used, as they are remarkably large and strong in this island. For about twopence a person may be taken from one end of the city to the other; while for a little tour in the country, or the use for a whole day, a dollar is considered as very ample satisfaction. The driver uses neither whip nor spur, but keeps a sharp nail in his hand, with which he pricks the side of the animal in order to quicken his motions. He runs along by his side with the reins in one hand and a swinging kind of movement of the other. These drivers are seldom seen either with shoes or stockings but on an holiday. Their general dress is a pair of loose trowsers, a coarse shirt, a waistcoat, round which they tie a long, red, worsted sash, and a woollen cap. On their festivals some
little

little addition is made to their dress, in the way of decoration, according as their finances will allow them. Dec. 1800.

There is a peculiarity in the laws of Malta, by which no debt is recoverable which is not formed by special contract in writing; and unless the written obligation is produced, no process will issue against the debtor. My own experience, in the character of treasurer to the regimental mess, gave me this insight into the jurisprudence of the island; when, from the want of this formality, the cook was justified in refusing the repayment of seventy or eighty dollars which I had advanced him.

There is but one cemetery in La Valetta, which is chiefly allotted for the poor people, foreigners and heretics. It is situated in the Floriana part of the city, close to the line, and surrounded by a wall of about sixteen feet in height, which is furnished within with several rows of stone shelves, containing the skulls of those who have been buried there during several centuries. They are arranged with a curious regularity, and might be considered as decorating the inclosure of a grand anatomical theatre.

Though all ranks of people are devotees, and minutely attentive to the multiplied superstitions of the church, yet chastity does not appear to maintain its due rank among the virtues of their religion. It certainly

Dec, 1800. certainly is not to be found in this island; while prostitution, from the familiar and open manner in which it is carried on, both by married as well as single women, and with the knowledge of their husbands and relations, is not, unless attended with some peculiar degree of enormity, considered as a crime.

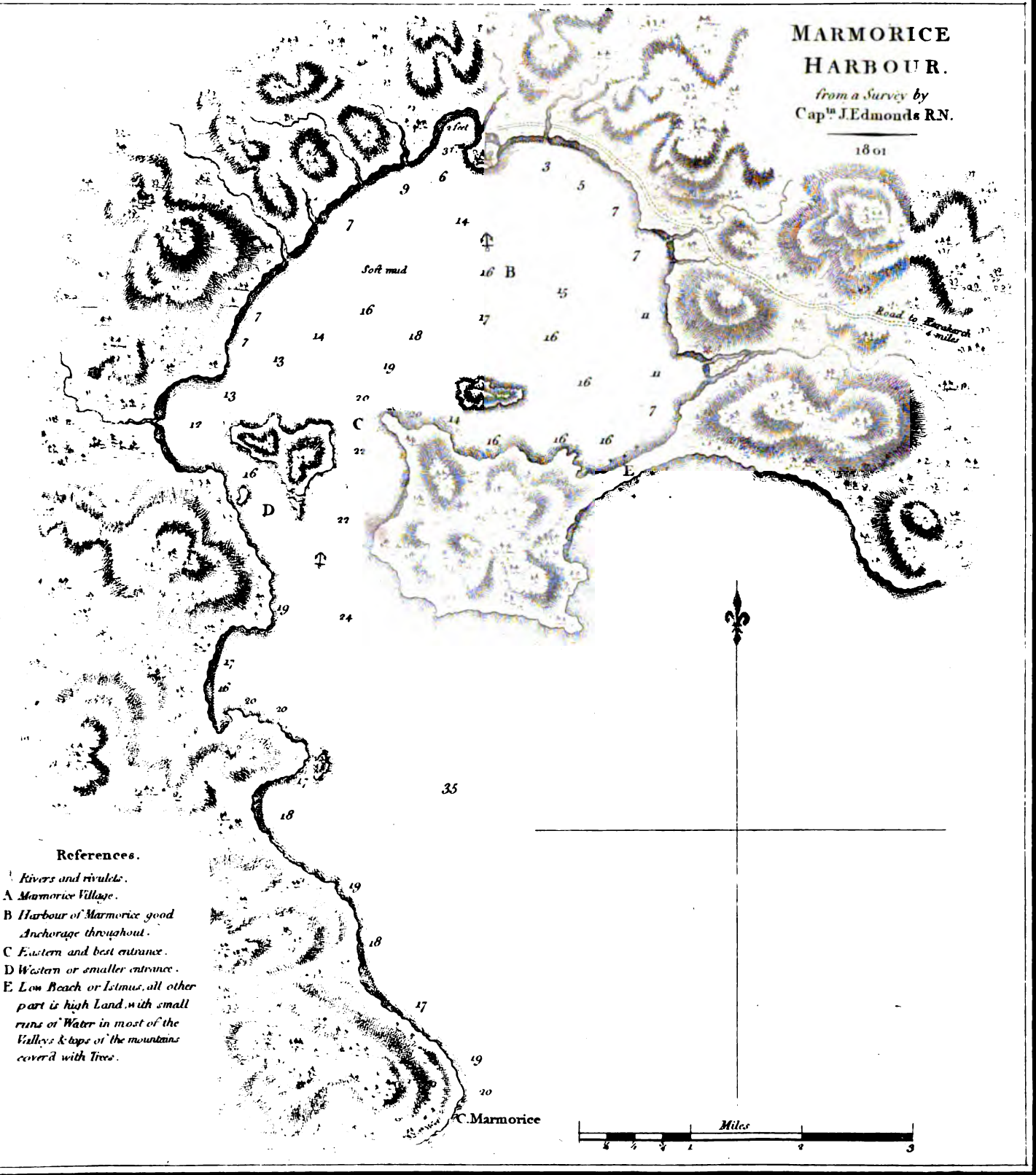
I shall now, for some time, take my leave of this island, and proceed with the British fleet and army to Egypt.

CHAPTER

MARMORICE HARBOUR.

from a Survey by
Cap^l J. Edmonds R.N.

1801



CHAPTER VI.

The Fleet and Troops arrive in Marmorice Bay—Description of its Harbour and the surrounding Country—Karacratch and Macari Harbours—General Appearance of the Country, its Inhabitants, and the Town of Marmorice—Animals—Produce, &c.—Circumstances of the Fleet and Army—Turkish Bashaw arrives with a General Campbell in the Service of the Porte—Horses obtained from Turkey, &c.—The Braakel Ship of War arrives with Transports—Sir Richard Bickerton and Sir Sidney Smith also arrive from cruizing off Alexandria—Arrival of the Turkish Admiral—Preparations made during the Stay of the Fleet in Marmorice Bay—The Inflexible arrives from England—The Fleet sails for Egypt—The Order of Sailing—General Orders relative to the Expedition.

AFTER a voyage of nine days, in which no particular occurrences happened, the first division of the fleet, commanded by Lord Keith, and with Sir Ralph Abercromby on board, came to an anchor in the harbour of Marmorice, on the coast of Caraminia.

Dec. 1809.

Monday 29.

The object of assembling at Marmorice, was to concert measures with the Ottoman Porte, to purchase horses for the cavalry, to collect ships to transport them, as well as to procure Turkish gun-boats to cover our landing, and vessels of lighter burthen to enter the lakes.

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Dec. 1800.

It was peculiarly gratifying to the fleet to make such an excellent port; for the wind blowing strong on the shore, with heavy rain, thunder and lightning, and being on a coast of which very little knowledge was to be obtained from charts, and to which the British officer is, in general, an entire stranger, this picturesque spot assumed the appearance of a Paradise. Though it was well known that the great object of the expedition would be promoted by the arrival of the British fleet in this harbour, we could not but be more particularly affected by the instant alteration which took place in the appearance of the troops on board. The sudden change, from a rough sea to smooth water, operated in an astonishing manner on the sea-sick soldiers; who, though they had before been laying about the decks, neglecting their food, careless of themselves, and almost disdaining life, almost instantly recovered every disposition that proceeds from health and spirits.

The land being high and mountainous, the entrance to this harbour is not easily discovered. It is, nevertheless, perfectly safe, and free from any difficulty whatever; and, by keeping along the larboard shore, is soon visible.

This shore is steep, with seventeen fathoms water before it, and the outermost Cape Marmorice bears about N.N.E. by compass, eight leagues from Rhodes. From that Cape the course to the entrance is north by west half-west, about six miles.

There

There are, indeed, two entrances into this Bay, both of which Dec. 1800.
have deep water. The easternmost, however, is that which should
be preferred: in the narrowest part it is about a mile in breadth.
It is steep and quite clear, with regular soundings through the
whole passage, from twenty to twenty-six fathom water. The
land on both sides is very high, and it is requisite to give the ship
good way in, to guard against the baffling and strong eddy winds
which occasionally blow. It is necessary, also, to have boats in
perfect readiness, to be employed in towing, if there should be a
calm,

On having passed about two-thirds of the entrance, the village of
Marmorice appears to the N. N. E. or N. E. by N.; and a ship may
come to an anchor throughout the Bay, in from ten to twenty
fathom water; the ground is quite clear, and the whole is entirely
land-locked.—The tide rises six inches at full and change.

About four leagues to the south-east, or east south-east of this
entrance, is the island Limaso, lying off the entrance of another
excellent harbour, called by the natives Karacratch, which signifies
the port of Black Trees. This is a better place for procuring wood
than Marmorice, which the fleet of Egypt has almost cleared
on the water side, and is easier of access. There are some rocks
bearing south-west from the larboard point near two miles, but
these are avoided by keeping near to the island of Limaso; from

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whence

Dec. 1800.

whence the entrance, which is one mile in breadth, bears about north-east by compass about six miles.

On the eastern side of the island is the widest passage to go towards the mouth of the harbour; and, about five leagues further to the eastward, is another most excellent harbour, called Macari, and the largest of them all.

The whole coast is very high and mountainous land covered with wood, and, throughout the country, from the many remains of ancient edifices and columns, there is every reason to believe that it has heretofore been the scene of a very numerous population.

At Macari, where these vestiges of ancient civilization are more frequent, there is an amphitheatre, which retains much of its ancient form.

At present the country is very bare of inhabitants, who are very indolent, and, consequently, very poor. They wander about in families, with their flocks of sheep and goats, and pitch their tents wherever the pasturage invites them to stay.

Red-legged partridges, with their breasts beautifully speckled, appear in great abundance, and are oftentimes seen as tame as domestic fowls about the huts of the Turks. Woodcocks also, and snipes, with various

various kinds of wild fowl, are very plentiful. The wild hog; the jackall, the fox and hare are among the natives of this coast; and according to the Turks themselves, the lion and the leopard are the inhabitants of the mountains. Dec. 1800.

On the first arrival of the fleet, a few lean black cattle were all that the poverty of the country could afford us. In about ten days, however, the Jews and Greeks from the adjacent islands, and even from Smyrna, brought fruit, vegetables and poultry to market, and sold them, as might be expected, at an enormous advantage. A couple of fowls were obtained for a dollar; but a goose could not be possessed for less than four times that price; and vegetables, being very rare, produced whatever an extortionate spirit could demand.

Though this country has the appearance of being admirably calculated to answer the purposes, and repay the labour, of cultivation, (for the land is both rich and easily tilled,) yet such is the indolence of the natives, that they do not take the very little trouble necessary to obtain vegetable productions. They sow a little barley by scattering it among the grass, and they are both ploughed in together by a wooden plough drawn by two small cows.

Wild honey is found in very great abundance, and is a principal article

Dec. 1800. article of food among them. Thus, to the most active of the insect tribes, are the most lazy part of the human race indebted for their subsistence.

The Turks live here, in the same miserable huts, and, in our opinion, in the same miserable manner as in many other parts of Turkey. The women were kept as much as possible from our view; and were never visible but under a veil, and on the top of an house; and even such a distant and imperfect sight of them appeared to occasion no small degree of displeasure.

Having made these observations on the general appearance of the country and its inhabitants, we shall return to Marmorice Bay, which must be represented as a most beautiful spot, and would require the glowing language of landscape description to do it justice. It is a magnificent bason of water, sufficiently capacious to contain five or six hundred ships of the line, and surrounded by mountains of irregular shape, whose sides are cloathed with trees of the largest size, and of various kinds and beauty. From the place of anchorage, such is the land-locked state of the harbour, the entrance to it is not perceptible. From the shipping, the town had the appearance of an old castle, from its being built on a marble rock of a conical form, with the houses winding round it: but on a near approach, the picturesque appearance disperses into a wretched congregation of dirty hovels, covered with earth, and but ill calculated to protect

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protect the wretched inhabitants from the inclemency of the weather, which appears to be very variable on this coast.

Dec. 1800.

The following general orders were issued from on board his Majesty's ship the *Kent*: Wednesday.

“ Such regiments as have not a sufficient proportion of tent-pegs and mallets, will send fatigue parties on shore to make the number requisite.

“ Those corps that have not received camp equipage will also take this precaution, as there will probably be a deficiency in those articles when it is issued to them.

“ The Commander in Chief points out to the troops the necessity as well as the propriety of paying the strictest respect to the customs, manners, and religion of the inhabitants of the country, where the army now is, or where it may be hereafter called upon to act.

“ Officers are themselves enjoined to abstain from every act that can in the smallest degree tend to give offence; and will, on every occasion, impress upon the minds of the soldiers, that their own individual safety, the reputation of the army, and the ultimate success of the expedition may be materially affected by their good or bad conduct in these particulars.

“ These

Dec. 1800.

“These considerations the Commander in Chief trusts will have sufficient weight, and obviate the disagreeable consequences of punishment, which he assures them must inevitably follow every offence of this nature.”

JANUARY

1801.

Thursday 1.

The second division of the fleet arrived from Malta, which completed the whole of the English ships of war and transports employed in this expedition.

A general order was this day issued by Admiral Lord Keith to complete watering and cut wood; and to use both as sparingly as possible, as neither could be expected to be obtained in Egypt.

Saturday 10.

The *Termagant* sloop of war arrived in the harbour, having a few days before fallen in with and captured a French brig, which had on board a French General and his Lady, and five thousand stand of arms for the use of the French army in Egypt.

On the same day a Turkish Bashaw arrived, who appeared to be a person of great authority and high station in the Turkish empire. After having paid a visit to the Commanders in Chief, he proceeded to Rhodes, for the purpose of expediting the gun-boats which were preparing in that island.

This officer was accompanied by a General Campbell, a native of
Argyleshire,

Argyleshire, in Scotland, who had been forty years in the Turkish service. His employment was to procure provisions for the fleet and army; on which duty he exerted himself with great zeal and attention. On discovering, soon after his arrival, that one of the natives had overcharged an English soldier for some articles that the latter had purchased, he ordered a bastinado to be immediately inflicted on the offender: it consists of violent blows on the soles of the feet with a board. At the same time, he added a public notice, that any person committing a similar offence in future, should be punished with the loss of his head.

Jan. 1801.

The *Braakel*, armed enflute, arrived with several transports, having on board the 12th and 26th regiments of dismounted cavalry. Horses had been, for some time, collecting to remount them, as well as to draw the artillery; and as they arrived they were broke in for their respective services.

Sunday 11.

Upwards of three hundred horses had been purchased by order of Lord Elgin, the British ambassador at Constantinople; but they were so small, as well as so galled in their backs, that the greater part, if not all of them, were either shot or sold. Such was their condition, that some were disposed of at the low price of a dollar. It was, indeed, very generally believed, that this disappointment was owing to the knavery of the people employed in convoying these animals, and that they had been changed on the road.

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The

Jan. 1801.

The best horses were procured, by the parties sent into the country to purchase them, from this place. They were not more than fourteen hands high; but were spirited and handsome stallions.

Wednesd. 14. Sir Richard Bickerton, rear admiral of the blue, arrived in the *Swiftsure*, and Sir Sidney Smith in the *Tigre* from cruising off Alexandria, having been relieved in the blockade of that port by the *Minotaur* of 74 guns, the *Northumberland* of the same force, the *Penelope* of 38, and the *Florentine* of 36 guns.

This day also arrived the Turkish Admiral, or Captain Bey, carrying a red flag, with a white bow and arrow in the field, and two corvettes. This officer was on board the largest of the latter; his own ship, the *Sun* of 80 guns, having been dismasted by lightning at Macari.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Monday 19. "It being probable that the stay of the army in this port will be short, the heads of the departments are directed to consider and report to the Commander in Chief what additional arrangements it may be necessary to make, in order to enable the army to move at the shortest notice."

GENERAL

GENERAL ORDERS.

“ At the request of Sir Ralph Abercromby, Lord Keith has been pleased to direct that the army shall receive, till they disembark, full allowance of provisions of all species, to commence from this day.”

Jan. 1801.

Tuesday 20.

No occurrences happened which would justify particular notice till the 8th of February, when, about noon, there was a tremendous storm of rain and hail, accompanied with thunder, lightning, and an heavy gale of wind. The hail-stones were of an incredible size, and some of them, a full hour after they had fallen, were found, on being measured, to be as large as a musket-ball. So violent was the wind, that, although in a bay which is surrounded by mountains, several of the ships were driven from their moorings; others lost their bowsprits, topmasts, yards, &c. The foremast of the *Swiftsure* man of war was struck by lightning and shivered to pieces. Many of the hospital tents on shore were blown down, and the sick men left exposed to the torrents which fell throughout the day and night.

The transports for carrying the horses, which were hired and fitted for that purpose at Smyrna, arrived at Marmorice the beginning of this month. Some gun-boats which had been fitted out at Rhodes now joined the fleet, being intended for covering the landing in Egypt. A number of small vessels with decks, and of easy draught of water, were hired for the purpose of accelerating the landing of

Jan. 1801.

the troops, by receiving them from the larger ships, and taking them in shore to anchor just without gun-shot: so that the flat-boats, when they had landed the first division, might return to them for the others.

FEBRUARY.
Saturday 14.

His Majesty's ship the *Inflexible*, armed en-flute, arrived with provisions from England, having left Plymouth the 9th of January. She brought out the new colours on account of the Union of Ireland with Great Britain, and the promotions of Admirals. Lord Keith accordingly hoisted a blue flag at the main-top, as Admiral of the Blue. At the same time Sir Richard Bickerton hoisted a white flag at the mizen-top, as Rear-Admiral of the White. The Turkish Admiral fired a salute on the occasion.

Wednesd. 18.

All the horses for the cavalry and artillery were embarked in the hired transports, with a proportion of cavalry men in each; and several horses for the field officers were taken on board the fleet.

Friday 20.

All the boats were employed in fetching the sick from the shore to their respective ships.

During the time that the fleet remained in Marmorice Bay, the boats of the fleet were exercised in their stations in a line, and practised in all the manœuvres necessary for landing troops. The coopers of the ships were also employed in making small casks containing from eight to ten

Feb. 1801.

ten gallons, for the convenience of carrying water with the troops on horseback, and small scuttle barrels, capable of holding about an hundred weight of boiled meat, to be transported in the same way. Canteens were also prepared to hold two quarts, as well as buckets for the purpose of drawing water from the wells that might hereafter be dug in the sands of Egypt. The navy carpenters were also engaged in making sledges for drawing water or provisions over the sand, with hand-barrows, wooden pumps, &c. A part of the army had been alternately encamped on shore, and were employed in fatigue parties, cutting wood, and other preparatory exercises. An hospital was erected, and the sick conveyed from the ships to receive the advantages it afforded. The Maltese corps, of about five hundred pioneers, were sent round in the *Dolphin* to Karacratch, and employed there in cutting wood and loading transports with fuel for the use of the army in Egypt. In short, no attention was omitted that superior knowledge and the most active zeal could suggest for the advantage of every person and every thing connected with this important expedition.

Since the fleet had been in a state of preparation for sailing, the winds had been altogether unfavourable till this day, when, with a fine gale at N. N. W. the whole fleet got out without the least confusion or accident, and, at sun-set, made sail towards the coast of Egypt, according to the following form : Monday. 23.

Form

Form of Sailing from Marmorice.

It had been supposed that the British fleet arrived at Marmorice at an earlier period than was expected by the Turks, and that they were consequently unprepared to co-operate with it. Mr. Baldwin, however, in his interesting volume relative to Egypt, with his usual understanding, makes the following observation : " The truth was, that they were astonished at the conduct of the British commanders, in venturing such a fleet and army in those tempestuous seas at this season

season of the year ; nor could they suppose it possible that the British forces would be able to effect a landing in any part of Egypt till the equinox was past."

Feb. 1801.

General Moore, on the arrival of the fleet in Marmorice Bay, was dispatched in the *Cameleon* brig to Acre, from whence he might proceed to Jaffa, to examine the state of the Turkish army there, consisting of 12,000 men, under the command of the Grand Vizier ; but the report of that active and intelligent officer did not encourage any great expectations of support from that quarter. The Turkish infantry were but indifferently armed and cloathed, and in an undisciplined state ; though their cavalry, amounting to about 2000, were well mounted, and in better order. This information may, therefore, be presumed to have occasioned the fleet to remain in Marmorice harbour during so long a period as eight weeks, in order to increase its strength by horses, gun-boats, and various other auxiliary preparations.

I shall take this opportunity of stating at large the general orders issued during the time the fleet and army remained in Marmorice harbour, by Sir Ralph Abercromby, preparatory to the great enterprize entrusted to him ; and which, with those hereafter issued, while they must prove instructive to military men, will be so many memorials to awaken a grateful interest in the public mind of a country,

Feb. 1801. country, which has admired his conduct, exulted in his glory, and
 lamented his fall:

GENERAL ORDERS.

MARCH. " Until farther orders, the brigade commanded by Brigadier-
 Sunday 1. General Finch is posted in order of battle on the right of the second line.

" The situation of the brigades in line is from right to left, as follows:

First Line, Brigade of Guards,
 Major-General Coote,
 Major-General Craddock,
 Major-General Earl of Cavan.

The Second Line,
 Brigadier-General Finch,
 Brigadier-General Stuart,
 Brigadier-General Doyle."

Monday 16. " The regiments and corps of each brigade, and of the reserve, unless when, under peculiar circumstances, Major-General Moore may think it necessary to alter the arrangement of the latter, are posted according to seniority, from flank to centre.

"As nearly as circumstances will admit, the disembarkation of the army will take place in the following order : March 1801.

"First, the infantry of the reserve, with ten pieces of light artillery.

Secondly, the brigade of guards.

Thirdly, the remainder of the first line, with the additional pieces of light artillery.

Fourthly, the infantry of the second line.

Fifthly, the mounted detachment of cavalry of the reserve, and of Brigadier-General Finch's brigade.

Sixthly, the dismounted part of the same brigade.

Seventhly, pioneers of the army, the horse department of the artillery, and such additional pieces of ordnance and ammunition as may be wanted."

"When the troops are ordered to land, the men are to get into the flat-bottomed boats as expeditiously as possible, but without hurry or disorder: they are then to sit down in the boats; and, in rowing to the shore, the strictest silence is to be observed. The troops are positively ordered not to load till formed on the beach. The formation is to be effected as soon as possible, the men to fall in in line opposite to where they land; nor is any individual or body of men, on conceiving themselves displaced, to attempt to regain the situation by closing to either flank, till ordered so to do by the

D D

general

March 1801. general officer on whom they depend, or the senior officer present on the spot.

“The troops are to land with sixty rounds of ammunition, and two spare flints per man : the ammunition which cannot be contained in the pouches, is to be carefully put up in the packs. Three days bread, and three days pork, ready cooked, is to be carried by officers and men ; the same quantity of rum is to be landed with the troops : it is not, however, to be delivered out, but carried in cags, and put in charge of the quarter-master of each regiment, with a party sufficient for the purpose.

“Each man will carry his canteen full of water, and the men will carry their entrenching tools, and the proportion of necessaries specified in the orders of the 15th of August, viz. two shirts, one pair of shoes, and two pair of socks, neatly made up in their packs or knapsacks, with their camp-kettles and blankets. Regiments having both blankets and great coats, will leave the latter on board.

“It is necessary that the officers should bring on shore, in the first instance, such articles only as they can carry themselves. Officers' servants are, on all occasions of service, to be present under arms with the corps to which they belong, and not to carry more than any other soldier : they are to mount all piquets and guards with their masters.

“ The smallest number of batmen possible will be admitted : March 1801.
mounted officers alone are entitled to them. Music, drummers, and
men, that are best for active service, to be selected for all regimental
duties not purely military; and officers commanding corps will
be held strictly responsible for their being at all times, and in every
situation, in the most effective state.

“ A proportion of the general hospital staff must be attached, in
the first instance, to each brigade, and will be allowed such orderlies
as are absolutely necessary, from the brigades. Regimental surgeons
are to be allowed an orderly man each, to carry their field chest of
instruments.

“ The spare arms, tents, horses, appointments of dismounted
cavalry, and every article of spare baggage, to be left in charge of
a careful non-commissioned officer on board of each ship.

“ After the troops have landed, the sick of such regiments as are
embarked in transports are to be collected in one of the vessels
occupied by the corps under the care of an assistant surgeon, who
will, as soon as possible, report himself the state of the men in his
charge to the inspector-general of hospitals on board his Majesty's
ship the *Niger*. In case of there being but one medical officer
present, with any regiment thus situated, his duty must be assisted
by a careful non-commissioned officer. The regiments embarked

March 1891.

in ships of war will leave their sick men under the care of the surgeon of the ship, who will be entitled to the allowance established in such a case. If necessary, a small portion of orderly men may be left with the sick, selected from the convalescent men. Regiments that have women will employ them in their place.

“ The women are particularly prohibited from disembarking, on any pretence whatever, until the commanding officer of the corps has obtained the Commander in Chief's express permission for that purpose.

“ More detailed instructions, relative to the artillery, engineers, and commissaries, will be communicated to the respective officers at the head of each of those departments.

“ In the first instance, the troops will not have it in their power to bring forward their tents; but the ground on which the army, or any considerable detachment of it, may encamp, must be taken up regularly, the usual guards and piquets mounted, and patrols sent out in different directions. Every officer occupying a post will esteem it his first duty to patrol in the neighbourhood, in order to ascertain the nature of the country, the avenues that lead to it, and the means of strengthening it.

“ All horses, mules, or camels taken or found, are to be sent off as soon

soon as possible to the Commissary-general for the public service. March 1801.

Nor is any individual to purchase or appropriate any horse, mule, or [camel, until permission for that purpose is given.

“ The Commander in Chief has had much satisfaction in observing the behaviour of the troops, in their transactions with the inhabitants, during the stay of the army at Marmorice, and he trusts that their continuation of the same regular conduct will merit that approbation which he will at all times be anxious to bestow upon them. Every instance of an opposite conduct will be punished in the most exemplary manner. It will be the duty of officers of every rank to point out to the soldiers what they will expose themselves to by the neglect of discipline and good conduct.

“ The manners, customs, and religious opinions of the inhabitants are to be most religiously respected, and the severest punishment will await those who give just cause of offence in those particulars.

“ Straggling from camp, or lagging behind on the march, are to be strictly prohibited, and officers are enjoined to prevent it. Plundering and marauding will expose the offenders to suffer immediate death; and officers are strictly enjoined to employ every means, and use all the precaution in their power, for the preservation of the health of the troops under their command.

“ The

March 1801.

“ The utmost vigilance will be expected from officers in situations of active duty, whether upon the out-posts, or more immediately with the army. Reports to head-quarters, or to the general officers on whom they depend, must be made with as little delay as possible, but without precipitation, and, if possible, not till the subject has been thoroughly examined.

“ The circumstances under which it is probable the army will be called on to act, require that the exertion of every individual should be made to concur to enforce the most exact discipline, as well as the most rigid economy in the consumption of provisions, fuel and water, and to diminish, as much as possible, the labour of the soldiers.

“ With these important objects before them, so important and so essential to the success of the expedition, the Commander in Chief is confident that officers will not repine at any temporary inconvenience they may feel, or regret any privations they may undergo; but will, on the contrary, animate, by their example, the soldiers under their command to a similar conduct.

Thursday 19. “ On the arrival of the army, however, on the ground where it is to encamp, the general officers commanding brigades will be responsible that the regimental quarter and rear guard are immediately mounted; and that patrols are instantly sent out in the neighbourhood

neighbourhood of their respective encampments, to ascertain the nature of the ground ; and that the non-commissioned officers and men are warned for public duty, are paraded, and ready to march to their respective posts as soon as possible, They will themselves patrol in the neighbourhood of the ground they occupy, and make a report thereupon to head quarters. March 1801.

“ Besides such advanced posts as it may be found necessary to place in order to cover the army, piquets will occasionally be formed from each brigade for the security of the camp ; and it will be the duty of the general officers commanding each brigade to post them. They will be commanded by the field officers of the brigade on duty for the day. In general they will be drawn in an hour after sun-rise : the hour, however, at which they will be withdrawn must be general, as the whole army will be ordered from head quarters.

“ In-lying piquets will occasionally be ordered to mount ; and when the duty is done by regiments, the in-lying piquets will turn out in case of alarm, at the head of their own encampments, unless otherwise notified. If it should be necessary to do the duty promiscuously, the officers and men of the in-lying piquets will remain in their own lines, and an alarm post will be assigned for the piquets of each brigade, at which they will assemble. If it should be necessary to mount both out-lying and in-lying piquets, an additional

March 1801. tional field officer per brigade will be on duty daily, unless otherwise directed in general orders.

“ There will be on duty daily a general officer of the day, a field officer per brigade, a captain, and a subaltern per regiment, and orderly subaltern per brigade, and at head quarters an orderly adjutant and quarter-master per brigade. Mounted orderlies will only be permitted for the general officers of the day, or for such officers of the general staff of the army as may be hereafter necessary.

“ In regiments furnishing the orderly adjutant and quarter-master, a subaltern of the day, or an officer named for that purpose, in regimental orders, may be directed to do their duty with the corps.

“ On all duties of fatigue the utmost attention of officers will be required to maintain regularity, and carry on the service with dispatch. As circumstances may require, the fatigue parties will be commanded by a field officer, or brigaded under different officers of that rank. When fatigue parties relieve one another in the performance of the same piece of service, such as bringing forward provisions, guns, and stores, the relieving party is to be stationed in such a manner, that the least possible delay may be occasioned. It will be a general rule that men going on a detachment, whether

with

with arms or on duties of fatigue, will carry their provisions ready March 1801.
cooked.

“ When parties are ordered to march immediately, the field officer of the day will, as soon as possible, report them to the general officer of the day. The majors of brigade and orderly adjutants will inspect all parties for duty. They who are unfit, from whatever cause, to go on duty, will be sent back to their regiments, and others immediately sent in their place. In general, the field officers of the day will inspect all parties, with or without arms, that may be ordered, before they march off.

“ The field officers of the day will go frequent rounds within the camp of his brigade, both by day and by night; and will, in his report to the general officer of the day, specify the different hours at which he visited the different posts.

“ In case of out-lying piquets being ordered for the security of the camp, under the field officer of the day, the additional field officer on duty will remain in camp to command the in-lying piquets. The general officer of the day will visit, at such times as he shall think fit, the different guards or piquets posted for the security of the camp, and will be responsible that the duty is done correctly.

E E

“ The

March 1801.

“ The general officers will encamp with their brigades, or have quarters immediately in their rear.

“ When the army is stationary, the relief of all the common duties will be at sun-set. It will be a constant regulation, that all troops on actual duty, with arms, whether at the advanced posts or with the army, comprehending the in-lying piquets, as well as the troops warned as next for duty, shall, unless otherwise ordered, be under arms an hour before sun-rise. The advanced posts of the army, distinct from such piquets as may be occasionally mounted for the security of the camp, will be put under charge of an officer named for that purpose, to whom instructions relating to them, and suited to circumstances, will be communicated.

“ In General Orders, however, it is directed that all such posts shall connect themselves by patrols from each other, and avoid leaving any space unexplored, or suffer any breach in the chain. Their advanced sentries will, in general, be doubled. If attacked, or apprehensive of attack, they must acquaint the posts on each flank, and the nearest post of the army in the rear : if forced to retire, they will, on no account, omit to acquaint the posts nearest them on either flank, and will always fall back on the army : no advanced post is to detach to either flank, in order to support another, unless ordered by a general officer so to do.

“ These

“ These regulations not only apply to permanent posts in the front of the army, but also to such out-lying piquets as may be posted for the more immediate security of the camp. March 1801.

“ The general and field officers on duty must make themselves masters of the nearest and best communications between the army and advanced posts, in order to be able to give immediate support when necessary. Every report made from the advanced posts to head-quarters, is to be forwarded with the greatest dispatch ; and any officer who should occasion delay will be called to the strictest account.

“ Deserters from the enemy that may come in at any of the posts of the army, are to be forwarded immediately to head-quarters, where they will be taken charge of by the provost-martial or his guard till examined.

“ Flags of truce will be universally stopped at the advanced post until reported to head-quarters, and orders are received respecting them. As soon as the disembarkation of the army is effected, a boat will be found near the shore, with spare ammunition, which will be distinguished by an Ordnance flag, from which supplies can be procured when necessary.

“ Admiral Lord Keith having signified to Sir Ralph Abercromby,
E E 2 that

March 1801. that a battalion of marines, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, is to be landed to serve with the army, it will be attached to the third brigade, and to take post in the order of battle, between the 50th and 70th regiments.

“ As the soldiers canteens have been out of use for some time, it will be necessary to take the precaution to have them filled with water for some days previous to the disembarkation of the army ; and commanding officers of regiments are desired to give directions respecting it. When the army lands, only one day's allowance of spirits will be issued to the troops, and will be carried in rear of the regiments.”

CHAPTER VII.

The Fleet deserted by the Turkish Ships, Transports, &c. in a Gale of Wind—It arrives in Aboukir Bay—Orders given for the immediate Landing of the Troops—Prevented by the unfavourable Weather—Major M'Kerras killed while reconnoitring the Shore, and Major Fletcher taken Prisoner—Unfavourable Weather continues—Circumstances previous to the Landing of the Troops—Regulation of the Boats, &c.—Description of the Landing—Battle of Aboukir—Subsequent Disposition and March of the Army—General Orders previous to the Action of the 13th of March—An Account of that Event—Attack and Surrender of the Fort of Aboukir—General Orders previous to the Battle of the 21st—Description of it—Sir Ralph Abercromby wounded—Arrival of the Captain Pacha with Turkish Ships and a large Body of Troops—The latter encamp near Aboukir—The Death of Sir Ralph Abercromby—Major-General Hely Hutchinson succeeds to the Command of the Army.

THE fleet, on leaving Marmorice harbour, had the appearance of a most formidable force; and those who knew the spirit it contained, prognosticated that it would prove irresistible. On the passage, however, a gale of wind threw the Turks and Greeks into such a consternation, that their convoy quitted the fleet for the neighbouring islands; so that in this part of the expedition the British force

March 1801.

was

March 1801. was left entirely to itself, and had received little or no accession to the strength with which it had, nine weeks before, departed from Malta.

MARCH.
Sunday 1. In the afternoon of this day the fleet arrived off Aléxandria, at the distance of about nine miles, and lay off till sun-set, when a signal was made to bear down for Aboukir Bay.

Monday 2. The fleet came to an anchor in that bay about seven *a. m.* and about seven miles from shore. The signal was instantly thrown out to prepare to land, and at ten *a. m.* the boats were all hoisted out; but the wind freshened from the sea into the bay, so as to stop all communication between the ships, and consequently to prevent any attempt towards a landing. The signal was flying all the morning, for Major Macnerras of the engineers, who sailed in the *Penelope*, some days before, to reconnoitre the coast for a proper landing. He had, however, been unfortunately shot in the boat while he was engaged in the execution of that duty, and the boat taken, with Major Fletcher, who was made a prisoner of war.

Tuesday 3. The fresh gales occasioned the ships to roll very much with the sea; but they all rode safe, as the reef of Nelson's Island considerably broke its violence.

The Commander in Chief, Sir Ralph Abercromby, went in a schooner,

schooner, and worked along shore near the sand hills of Aboukir, March 1801.
to make his observations. Sir Sidney Smith also availed himself of
the opportunity to reconnoitre the lakes, and in three armed
launches assailed a battery, took a block-house defended by fifty
men on shore, boarded a guard boat at the entrance of the Aboukir
Lake, and ascertained, with his usual activity and intelligence, several important points of service.

The *Tartarus* and *Fury* bombs anchored near Aboukir, but out of the reach of gun-shot; and several of the small transports endeavoured to work to them, but could not get to the windward.

The French were now clearly seen at work, on the sand hills, as there was every reason to suppose, in erecting batteries.

The fresh gales continued; and some few of the transports, full Wednesd. 4.
of troops for landing, made another ineffectual effort to get in shore.

The French appeared to be indefatigable in forming defences on the sand hills.

Though the fresh breezes continued, several of the transports got Thursday 5.
in shore to the *Tartarus* and *Fury* bombs. The indefatigable spirit of the French was continual in their operations on the sand hills.

As

March 1801.

Friday 6.

As the breezes moderated from the west, and the water became tolerably smooth, many of the transports got in shore.

At three *p. m.* a cutter and some launch gun-boats, under the command of Sir Sidney Smith, attacked the small fort of two guns at the entrance of Aboukir Lake, and a gun-boat at anchor under it. They took possession of the gun-boat, but, not being able to bring her away, the gun was spiked, and the boat set on fire: the French, however, came down in great force, and in time to save her from being rendered altogether unfit for their service.

Several of our boats landed to the east of Aboukir, in order to reconnoitre. The Admiral and General were also employed throughout the day, in reconnoitring near the shore. Orders were issued for all boats to be ready for disembarking at three o'clock on the following morning. The following orders were also issued by the Commander in Chief:

GENERAL ORDERS.

" His Majesty's Ship Kent, March 6, 1801:

" The troops will hold themselves in readiness to land as soon as the weather permits. The first division that disembarks, consisting of the brigade of guards, reserve, second battalion royals, first battalion 54th regiment, and two hundred men of the 54th regiment from the *Orpheus* transport, will carry on shore with them, their blankets,

blankets, three days provisions, and entrenching tools, and will leave March 1801.
their knapsacks on board of ship, under charge of a guard, until an
opportunity offers of sending for them."

The morning was too fresh for the boats, but the day moderated Saturday 7.
into very fine weather.

Small transports continued taking troops from the large ships, and working in shore. Signal was made for the ships to cook three days provisions for the troops.

At three *p.m.* a signal was made for the launches and gun-boats appointed to cover the landing to repair to the *Tartarus* bomb; and, in the evening, the more important signal was thrown out, to prepare and send all boats of every description at two in the morning.

The wind being moderate, and the weather fine, the boats quitted Sunday 8.
their respective ships, to fetch the troops, according to the following distribution :

March 1801. *Distribution of Boats for landing the First Division, under Orders of the Hon. Capt. Cochrane of the Ajax, and Third Officer of the Fleet, or Senior Captain.*

Regiment	Ships to disembark from.	Numb. of Troops.	In what Ship's Boats.	Flat Boats.	Launches	Row Boats.	Number of Troops in each Ship's Boats.	
23d	<i>Astrea</i>	250	<i>Astrea</i>	1	1	2	90	Under Capt. Stephenson of the <i>Europa</i> , and Capt. Morrison of the <i>Thisbe</i> .
			<i>Ajax</i>	2			110	
			<i>Dido</i>	1			50	
							250	
Do.	<i>Heroine</i>	280	<i>Heroine</i>	1	1	2	95	
			<i>Dido</i>		1	1	30	
			<i>Regulus</i>	1	1	2	100	
			<i>Experiment</i>	1		1	55	
							280	
28th	<i>Winchelsea</i>	235	<i>Winchelsea</i>	1	1	2	90	
			<i>Experiment</i>		1	1	40	
			<i>Hebe</i>	1	1	2	100	
			<i>Pallas</i>	1		1	60	
							290	
Do.	<i>Druid</i>	328	<i>Druid</i>	1	1	2	95	
			<i>Pallas</i>		1	1	40	
			<i>Roebuck</i>	2	1	2	150	
			<i>Iphigenia</i>		1	1	40	
							325	
Do	<i>Blonde</i>	155	<i>Blonde</i>	1	1	2	95	Under Capt. Larmour of the <i>Diadem</i> .
			<i>Charon</i>	1		1	60	
							155	
40th flank comps.	<i>Vestal</i>	259	<i>Vestal</i>	1	1	2	90	
			<i>Statcly</i>	2		1	110	
			<i>Niger</i>	1		1	60	
							260	
42d	<i>Minotaur</i>	150	<i>Minotaur</i>	2		4	150	
							150	
42d	<i>Kent</i>	150	<i>Kent</i>	2		2	120	
			<i>Alligator</i>		1	1	30	
							150	
42d	<i>Cyclops</i>	203	<i>Cyclops</i>	1	1	2	90	
			<i>Iphigenia</i>	1			50	
			<i>Europa</i>	1		1	60	
							300	
42d	<i>Inconstant</i>	404	<i>Inconstant</i>	1	1	2	100	Under Capt. Larmour of the <i>Diadem</i> .
			<i>Europa</i>	1		1	60	
			<i>Inflexible</i>	1	1	2	100	
			<i>Thisbe</i>	1	1	1	84	
			<i>Ceres</i>	1		1	60	
							404	
42d	<i>Tourterelle</i>	128	<i>Tourterelle</i>	1	1	2	90	
			<i>Ceres</i>		1	1	38	
							128	

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

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Regiment	Ships to disembark from.	Numb. of Troops.	In what Ship's Boats.	Flat Boats.	Lauchea.	Row Boats.	Number of Troops in each Ship's Boats.	
58th	<i>Ulysses</i>	564	<i>Ulysses</i>	1	1	1	90	564
			<i>Expedition</i>	2	1	2	150	
			<i>Dover</i>	1	1	1	90	
			<i>Diadem</i>	2	1	1	110	
			<i>Resource</i>	1	1	2	90	
			<i>Thetis</i>		1	1	34	
	<i>Pegasus</i>	270	<i>Pegasus</i>	1	1	2	90	270
			<i>Foudroyant</i>	2		1	110	
			<i>Braakel</i>	1		2	70	
	<i>Chatbam</i>	161	<i>Chatbam</i>	Transports	1	1	40	160
			<i>Anacreon</i>		1	1	40	
			<i>Apollo</i>		1	1	40	
<i>Ann</i>			1		1	40		
Guards	<i>Trusty</i>	554	<i>Trusty</i>	2	1	2	160	554
		<i>Swiftsure</i>	2		2	120		
		<i>Northumberld.</i>	2		2	120		
		<i>Tigre</i>	2		2	120		
		<i>Flora</i>		1	1	34		
Guards	<i>Delft</i>	628	<i>Delft</i>	2		2	120	
			<i>Dolphin</i>	2	1	2	160	
			<i>Dictator</i>	2		2	120	
			<i>Renommée</i>	1	1	2	110	
			<i>Niger</i>		1	1	40	
			<i>Charon</i>		1	1	50	
			<i>Petterel</i>		1	1	38	
Guards	<i>Dictator</i>	580	All unappropriated Boats.					638
	<i>Renommée</i>	320	Ditto.					
								Under Capt. Apthorpe of the <i>Dread.</i>
								Under Capt. Scott of the <i>Stately.</i>

Under Capt. Apthorpe of the *Druid*.

Under Capt. Scott of the *Stately*.

March 1801. *Seamen and Artillery from Seven Line of Battle Ships, with Six Pounders or Howitzers, complete in Ammunition, &c. &c.*

Ships Names to	Supply	Launches	Row Boats	Guns	Seamen	Artillery Men.	Total of Men.
<i>Foudroyant</i>		2	2	2	50	16	
<i>Swiftsure and Diadem</i>		2	2	2	50	16	
<i>Ajax and Europa</i>		2	2	2	50	16	
<i>Minotaur and Delft</i>		2	2	2	50	16	
<i>Northumberland and Stately</i>		2	2	2	50	16	
<i>Tigre and Braakel</i>		2	2	2	50	16	
<i>Kent and Dictator</i>		2	2	2	50	16	
Total.....		14	14	14	350	112	462

Officers.—*Captains to command Seamen on Shore*—Sir Sydney Smith, and under him Captains Riboleau, Guion, Saville, Burn, and Hillyar; and one Lieutenant and one Midshipman in each Launch.

At dawn they had got about half way to the shore, and began to form their line of landing out of gun-shot, so that each regiment and company should land in the station of the line. It was agreeable to the following order :

The 40th flank companies on the right,
 The 23d regiment on their left,
 The 28th, 42d, and 58th regiments, with
 The Brigade of Guards, and
 Corsican Rangers on the left.

The first division was under the command of Major-General
 8 Moore,

Moore, the Honourable Major-General Ludlow, and Major-General Coote. March 1801.

The circumstances of delay, both at Marmorice, and afterwards at Aboukir, gave the French every opportunity of collecting a powerful force to oppose the landing of the British troops. It consisted of the whole infantry of the garrison of Alexandria, and 300 horse, composing a body of 4000 men, with a large proportion of artillery of every kind.

The front of disembarkation was narrow, and a sand-hill, which commanded the whole, was considered as inaccessible, not only from its perpendicular front, but the unstable materials of which it was formed, and the strength with which it was guarded in itself, and on its flanks. The spaces from the extremities of the French position, to the commanding hill in the centre, were filled with smaller sand-hills, between which, soldiery and artillery presented a most menacing aspect. Such a position appears, from this faint description of it, to have been impregnable; and impregnable it would have been to any other troops, but those which attacked it.

The line being thus formed, the right of the division was to the fort of Aboukir, and the left to Block-house, on the Isthmus, leading to Rosetta.

About

March 1801.

About nine the whole line gave way with their oars, by signal from Captain Cochrane, who commanded the boats on the occasion. Our gun-boats then opened on the French batteries, in order to cover the troops; while the French let loose an heavy, quick, and most powerful fire of ball, bomb, and grape, from the Fort, Block-house, and lines; but fortunately with very little effect. Three of the boats only were sunk, and the greater part of the men saved by the cutters of the fleet, which were posted in the rear for that purpose.

When the boats arrived within about three hundred yards of the shore, the enemy opened a most tremendous fire of small arms, &c. which did great mischief. Between nine and ten, however, the boats reached the shore, in the most excellent order, and nearly at the same moment. Some of the troops formed and loaded as they quitted the boats, while others pushed on without having time to load; and, notwithstanding the rapid fire of musquetry which assailed them, and the violent charge of the enemy, the latter were forced to give way. Not more than two thousand of our men were on shore when the French retreated; but every step was contested and carried. There was scarce any interval between the landing of the troops and their pushing up the hills, under difficulties and amidst dangers that equally baffle the powers of description with the gallantry that surmounted them. Some marched up in an excellent line with charged bayonets, while others proceeded on
7 their

their hands and knees. But, however, they ascended, or whatever dangers they encountered, they gained their object. March 1801.

The troops that ascended the hill were the 23d regiment, and the four flank companies of the 40th, under the command of Colonel Spencer, whose coolness and intrepidity is among the most distinguished features of this extraordinary and important victory. The 28th and 42d regiments, under Brigadier-General Oakes, received their merited praise from the Commander in Chief. In short, it does not appear, in contemplating this extraordinary transaction, that any branch or department of the navy or army engaged in it failed in any one point to which it was directed.

When, however, the British troops had gained the top of the hill, they charged and broke the lines of the enemy, and threw them into such confusion, that they began to run in all directions, leaving two brass six-pounders behind them. The remainder of the reserve took four field pieces. Thus the French left us in possession of the field, and six of their guns, and retreated, the greater part of them, towards Alexandria: the rest took refuge in Aboukir.

At five o'clock the same evening the conquering troops advanced about three miles on the road to Alexandria, and lay on their arms that night. The fort of Aboukir was summoned to surrender before we proceeded, but on its refusal a party was left to reduce it,

as

March 1801. as the General did not wish to detain the army a moment from the important purposes before us.

In this engagement four officers, four serjeants, ninety-four rank and file were killed ; twenty-six officers, thirty-four serjeants, five drummers, four hundred and fifty rank and file wounded. One officer, one serjeant, one drummer, thirty-two rank and file missing.

The return of killed and wounded in the disembarkation was twenty-two seamen killed, seven officers and sixty-five seamen wounded, and three missing.

When we mention Ensign Warren with more particular regret, as a young man of great promise and the noblest virtues, as the sole remaining stock of a family which, from the degeneracy of the times, our country cannot afford to lose, we do not mean to lessen the merits of Major Ogle of the 58th regiment, the Honourable Ensign Mead of the 40th flank company, or Ensign England of the first battalion of the 54th regiment, who shared with the illustrious youth that honourable grave which glory had dug for them in the sands of Egypt.

The ordnance taken consisted of one twenty-six pounder, three four pounders, and one six inch howitzer ; brass. One nine pounder,

pounder, one six pounder, one ammunition waggon, and a small quantity of shells, shot, and musquet ammunition. March 1801.

The following General Orders were issued on the following day Monday 9.
by the Commander in Chief, to demonstrate the high sense he entertained of the conduct and service of every department of the army and navy.

“ The gallant behaviour of the troops in the action of yesterday claims, from the Commander in Chief, the warmest praise that he can bestow ; and it is with particular satisfaction that he observed their conduct marked equally for ardent bravery and by coolness, regularity, and order.

Camp near
Aboukir.

“ Major-Generals Coote, Ludlow, and Moore, and Brigadier-General Oakes, who led the troops that effected the landing, and were engaged, will be pleased to accept Sir Ralph Abercromby's thanks for the able manner in which they conducted the whole operation.

“ The Commander in Chief has much pleasure in acknowledging the effectual assistance received from the navy on this occasion, in consequence of the judicious arrangements directed by Admiral Lord Keith ; and it is his intention to request his Lordship to communicate the same to Captain Cochrane of the *Ajax*, who superin-

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tended

March 1801. tended the disembarkation, as well as the officers and men employed under him on that service, and officers and men in the gun-boats and armed launches that covered the landings. Sir Sidney Smith, the captains, officers, and men from the ships of war who acted with the army on shore, will be pleased to accept Sir Ralph Abercromby's thanks, for the activity with which they brought forward the field artillery, and for the intrepidity and zeal with which they acquitted themselves of the service entrusted to them."

Tuesday 10. About nine in the forenoon the line got under arms, and marched against an outpost of the enemy, at the distance of about three miles, and we were three hours in proceeding to that small distance from the depth of the sand. The few field pieces we had on shore were drawn by men, the horses not being yet landed which had been procured for that purpose. On our approach to the place, the enemy thought proper to evacuate it, and left one twelve pounder behind, which they spiked, dismounted, and threw over the works. They likewise destroyed a large quantity of biscuit and barley, which they had not time to take with them. At this place we lay all night on our arms.

The weather being more moderate, the remainder of the troops were landed, and the park of artillery moved on to a small distance.

General

General Orders issued by the Commander in Chief, dated March 1801.
Aboukir.

Wednesd. 11.

“ Sentinels in camp are to challenge, but when no countersign is given out, the answer is to be officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, naming, at the same time, the corps to which the person or persons belong: if more than one person is approaching, the sentinel is desired to order the party to halt, and one of them to advance: when he has ascertained to what corps they belong, he is to permit them to pass. The sentinels are to discontinue the practice of calling All is well.

“ The main body of the army is considered, for the present, as forming three lines, as follow :

FIRST LINE.

Brigade of Guards,
Major-General Coote's Brigade,
Major-General Finch's do.

SECOND LINE.

Major-General Craddock's Brigade,
Major-General Earl Cavan's Brigade.

G G 2

THIRD

March 1801.

THIRD LINE.

Brigadier-General Stuart's Brigade,
Brigadier-General Doyle's Brigade.

“ The army will advance to-morrow morning at eight o'clock, in the above order, each line forming two columns. The Brigade of Guards, marching from the right, will lead the first column. They will proceed along the road near the sea beach, facing the redoubts of Maudora to the left, and will be directed by the flag staff, about two miles in front of it.

“ Fifty dragoons, detached from Major-General Finch's brigade, followed by Major-General Coote's, marching also from the right, will lead the second column. They will proceed along the side of the lake, leaving the redoubts of Maudora to the right. They will be directed by a conspicuous green hill in front of Maudora, and Lieutenant-Colonel Murray will conduct them.

“ The brigades on the right of the second and third line will follow the Guards, and the brigades on the left will follow that of Major-General Coote. As the Guards and Major-General Finch's brigade are already considerably advanced, they will not move until the head of Major-General Coote's brigade appears: Major-General Finch will detach fifty dragoons to join the Guards before they move. Each line will remain under the command of the

senior general officer, who will see that flanking parties are furnished to cover the march. This will be chiefly done from the brigades of the rear line; and as the ground through which the column of the right will have to move beyond Maudora is woody, the infantry will form the advanced guard; but Major-General Coote will be extremely careful to support them, if attacked. March 1801.

“ Two of the six pounders, now with the reserve, will remain at Maudora, on the right of the redoubt, until Brigadier-General Stuart comes up, when they will fall into the line of march. Two of the six pounders, from Major-General Coote's brigade, will join that of Major-General Craddock this evening. Four 12 pounders, and two howitzers of reserve artillery, will join Brigadier-General Doyle's brigade and march with it.

“ The artillery will follow the advance guard of each brigade. The pioneers will open the route for it where necessary; and every requisite assistance, in addition to the seamen, will be given.

“ The dismounted part of the 12th light dragoons will form the rear-guard of each wing, following the brigades of Brigadier-General Stuart and Brigadier-General Doyle.

“ The reserve will follow the advanced guard of the army, and will receive a particular disposition of their movement.

“ The

March 1801.

“ The followers of the army, officers, servants and baggage, will follow in the rear of the columns which contain their respective regiments.

“ Two hundred men of the dismounted part of the 26th light dragoons, under the command of Major Moore, will remain at Aboukir until further orders, and receive orders from Colonel the Earl of Dalhousie.

“ The remainder of the dismounted part of the 26th light dragoons, under the command of a field officer, will march this evening to the depot on the lake, to relieve the guards, and remain there till further orders.

“ As soon as the battalion of marines land, Lord Dalhousie will order the eight battalion companies of the Queen's regiment to join the army. He will detain at Aboukir the two flank companies, where he is to command until further orders.”

A flag of truce was again sent to the garrison of Aboukir; but the Commander of the place would not suffer the officer who bore it to approach, and even ordered a gun to be discharged at him. Batteries therefore were immediately raised to reduce it. We lay on our arms this night, as we had done the preceding one.

We marched against another of the enemy's posts, at the distance of five miles. - On our approach they hastily evacuated it, leaving all their signal flags and colours flying; which were instantly struck and the English colours planted in their room. We marched onwards for about a mile, when we saw the French army drawn up along a ridge of sand-hills, that reached from the sea-side to Lake Media. They appeared as if they were waiting to give us battle; but retreated on our approach, and encamped about three miles in our front. In the course of the day, we had a great deal of skirmishing with the advanced guard of the enemy, who had received a reinforcement of two half brigades of infantry, and one regiment of cavalry from Cairo; so that their army now consisted of seven thousand men, with a body of flying artillery; while we were very deficient in artillery, and the small portion of dragoons we possessed, were miserably mounted on Turkish horses.

March 1801.

Thursday 12.

We halted for the night about three miles from the enemy's position, which appeared to be, as it afterwards proved, in every military point of view, replete with advantage.

Five hundred marines were landed from the fleet to act with the army.

The

March 1801.

The following General Orders were this day issued by the Commander in Chief; dated Camp near Alexandria.

GENERAL ORDERS.

“The men will fill their canteens with water previous to marching.

“The army will move forward to-morrow morning at five o'clock, in two lines, moving from the left according to the natural order of battle. Earl Cavan's brigade will, for the present, be considered as on the left of the second line; the order of march will therefore be as follows:

FIRST LINE.

Major-General Craddock's Brigade,
Major-General Coote's do. and
The Brigade of Guards.

SECOND LINE.

Brigadier Earl Cavan's Brigade,
General Stuart's do.
Brigadier-General Doyle's Brigade, and
The dismounted part of the 12th Light Dragoons.

“The

“ The 90th regiment will form the advanced guard of the first March 1801.
line, the 92d regiment that of the second line.

“ Major-General Hutchinson will be pleased to take the command of the second line.

“ Two howitzers from Major-General Coote's brigade will join that of Major-General Craddock ; two guns from Brigadier-General Stewart's brigade will join Earl Cavan's ; one 12 pounder and one howitzer will march with General Craddock's brigade ; one 12 pounder and one howitzer will join Earl Cavan's brigade.

“ The mounted part of Major-General Finch's brigade will march between the two lines following the advanced guards. Major-General Finch will furnish one officer and thirty men to be attached to each of the regiments which form them.

“ As soon as Major-General Craddock perceives that he has advanced so far as to have joined the enemy's right flank, he will form and commence the attack. Earl Cavan will form at the same time, and support Major-General Craddock. The rest of the army will form in succession as it comes up.

“ The reserve will march from their left in two lines, and form on the right of the front line of the main body of the army. Major-

H H

General

March 1801. General Moore will dress the heads of his columns upon the centre of the front line, and will march parallel so as to cover the general movements.

“ That part of the cavalry of the reserve that is not wanted for patrols, will march between the two lines: this corps must be ready at every moment to form to the front or flank, as soon as occasion may require.”

Friday 18. At seven in the morning the army marched in two lines by the left, with an intention to turn the right flank of the enemy; and the troops had proceeded but a short distance towards their object, when the whole cavalry of the French, and a considerable body of infantry, and several pieces of cannon, poured down from the heights to attack the heads of both lines, which were commanded by Major-General Craddock, and Major-General the Earl of Cavan. This attack, which was very impetuous, was repulsed by the advanced guard, consisting of the 96th and 92d regiments, with incomparable gallantry and coolness. The first line then formed two lines to the front of march, with the utmost quickness and precision, and continued to advance in that manner, while the second line, with the exception of its first brigade, continuing still in column, turned the right of the French army and drove it from its position: Thus the British forces continued to advance on the enemy, driving them with the utmost vigour, from position to position, till they had reached

reached the fortified heights which form the principal defence of Alexandria. They were, however, regular in their retreat, and continued the engagement throughout the day. March 1801.

It was the intention of the Commander in Chief to have attacked them on the heights, where they had now posted themselves; and for that purpose the reserve, under the command of Major-General Moore, which had remained in column during the whole day, was brought forward; and the second line, under the command of Major-General Hutchinson, marched to the left, over a part of the Lake Mariotis, with a view to attack the enemy on both flanks; but, on a more attentive examination of their position, it was believed to be commanded by the guns of the forts, and consequently it was more than probable that it could not be kept. Sir Ralph Abercromby, therefore, employed a very wise discretion in preventing those troops, who had just demonstrated such admirable courage, and were willing to continue it to whatever point the superior command might direct them, should not be exposed to a certain loss, for an uncertain advantage. They were accordingly withdrawn; and in the evening the army took up the ground from which the enemy had been driven, occupying a position with their right to the sea, and their left to the Canal of Alexandria and Lake Mariotis, at the distance of about a league from that town: a situation of great advantage, as it cut off the communication between Alexandria, except by way of the desert.

March 1801.

The French general in this action had his horse shot under him, and Sir Ralph Abercromby was, for a moment, in danger of being enveloped by the French cavalry; but was saved by the intrepidity of the 90th regiment, who rushed forward to receive the charge of the cavalry on their bayonets; but the impetuosity of the latter was not equal to the reception that menaced them, and they desisted, though with considerable loss, from the rash manœuvre.

The return of the killed, wounded and missing, is as follows:—
Six officers, six serjeants, one drummer, one hundred and forty-three rank and file, and twenty-one horses, killed.

Sixty-six officers, one quarter-master, sixty-one serjeants, seven drummers, nine hundred and forty-six rank and file, and five horses, wounded; one rank and file missing.

Ensign Jenkinson of the Coldstream guards, Captain Chester of the 13th regiment, Captain Jones of the 18th regiment, Brigade Major Foster, Captain Godley of the 28th regiment, a young man of the most promising abilities, Ensign T. Rogers of the 30th regiment, and Lieutenant Stewart of the 50th regiment, unfortunately for their country, did not survive the honour of a day to which they had contributed.

The killed and wounded seamen under the command of Captain Sir Sidney Smith, amounted to five seamen killed; Mr. Wright, midship-

midshipman of the *Northumberland*, and nineteen seamen, March 1801.
wounded.

The killed and wounded of the battalion of marines under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, co-operating with the army, were two officers, twenty-two rank and file killed; four officers, two serjeants, two drummers, and twenty-seven rank and file, wounded.

Four field pieces, with a quantity of ammunition, formed the principal spoils of the day.

The loss of the enemy, though it must have been very considerable, could not be ascertained.

The sentiments of Sir Ralph Abercromby, respecting the conduct of the troops under his command, were expressed in the General Orders of this day:

“ The Commander in Chief has the greatest satisfaction in thanking the troops for their soldier-like and intrepid conduct in the action of yesterday. He feels it particularly incumbent on him to express his most perfect satisfaction at the steady and gallant behaviour of Major-General Craddock’s brigade; and he desires that Major-General Craddock will assure them, that their meritorious conduct

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commands

Camp near
Alexandria.
Saturday 14.

March 1801. commands his admiration. To the 90th and 92d regiment and Dillon's; an equal share of praise is due; and when it has been well earned, the Commander in Chief has the greatest pleasure in bestowing it.

“ Sir Ralph Abercromby desires that Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, and the battalion of marines, will accept his thanks for their conduct in the course of the service of yesterday. At the request of Admiral Lord Keith, that corps will march this afternoon to Aboukir, and place themselves under the command of Colonel the Earl of Dalhousie.

“ The second battalion, 27th regiment, will march from their present post this afternoon, so as to join Earl Cavan's brigade before sun-set.

“ Each regiment will send a quarter-master to the landing-place to assist in disembarking the camp equipage. They will be met by Captain Macleane of the Quarter-Master-General's department. Tents for one half of the whole will be landed.

“ No party will be sent out of camp before five in the morning, and they must always be returned before five in the evening. Should it be necessary to send for provisions and water at the same time, the parties may be appointed to each purpose, in the proportion of one to every twenty men.

“ The

"The piquets are to parade, in front of their respective regiments, half an hour before sun-set, when they will receive orders, and be posted by the general officer of the day, previous to their being marched off. They must be carefully inspected by the field officer of the different brigades for the day.

March 1801.

"The whole of the field officers, for duty this evening, will meet Major-General Moore on the plain spot of ground between the guards and the 42d regiment, at half past five o'clock."

In the course of the night, Colonel Bryce of the guards, having the command of the piquets, being surprized with the discharge of musquetry, went towards the place from whence the firing appeared to proceed; and, as it was supposed, fell in with some of the enemy and was taken prisoner.

A battery of five 24 pounders was this day opened against Aboukir Castle.

The first fruits of the late victory was the appearance of the Arabs among us with various kinds of provisions; as sheep, goats, fowls, eggs, and, in short, every thing that the country afforded. They had been treated with an unrelenting barbarity during the period in which the French had possessed the sway of Egypt; and

Sunday 15.

were

March 1801. were now happy to engage in a friendly intercourse with the people who had given so fair a promise of terminating the tyranny which oppressed them.

For the more speedy arrival of these Arabs, their ready undertaking to supply the army with cattle, horses, and other provisions, as well as the fidelity with which they fulfilled all their engagements, and the regulations which governed the market, the army was indebted to the activity and local knowledge of Mr. Baldwin, so well known for his long and useful residence, as his Majesty's Consul-General, in this part of the world. That gentleman was, on the present occasion, attached to the Commander in Chief; and the ardent zeal which he manifested on every occasion wherein his services were required, and as long as they were necessary, proved the propriety of the appointment.

The General Orders of the day mention him as having the regulations of the market submitted to his direction.

Camp near
Alexandria.
March 15.

" A market is established on the left of the second line, near the Lake, under the directions of Mr. Baldwin, who will regulate the prices, &c. &c. Such of the inhabitants as may present themselves to the advanced posts of the army, with provisions, horses, mules, or camels, are to be passed from one post to another, by the left of
Major-

Major-General Craddock's, and Major-General Earl Cavan's brigades, to the market place; but they are not, either coming in or going out, to pass through the lines. March 1801.

“The orderly officers are discontinued until further orders.

“The surgeons of regiments must constantly remain with their regiments. If they should be absent upon duty, they must report to the commanding officer of the regiment where they are to be found. Brigade Orders.

“No regiment of the brigade to move without their entrenching tools and biers.”

A redoubt was begun in the front of the lines, to guard against an attack of the enemy. Monday 16.

Several large pieces of ordnance were brought on shore, to strengthen the batteries opened against the Fort of Aboukir.

The continual and anxious attention of Sir Ralph Abercromby to the orderly and proper behaviour, as well as the military discipline of the army, appears in General Orders issued on this day:

March 1801.

Camp near
Alexandria,
March 16.

“ The Commander in Chief has learned, with very great dissatisfaction, that, in several instances, the Arabs coming to sell provisions have been robbed and defrauded: a conduct so disgraceful, and so injurious to the public good, merits his highest reprobation.

“ He enjoins officers of every rank to express it, and explain to the soldiers the evils they will draw on themselves, and the army at large, by disgusting a people disposed to be friendly; prematurely cutting off, by their own misconduct, the service of support, which, if cultivated with propriety and good faith, promises to be beneficial.

“ It is positively forbidden for any officer or soldier to purchase any article from the inhabitants, but at the places and hours indicated for the general market; and the conduct of an individual who may offend in this particular, or who may interfere with or not conform to such regulations as shall be established for the maintenance of good order in the market, or exceed the prices agreed to be given by Mr. Baldwin, will be severely noticed.

“ The hours for marketing are betwixt seven in the morning and three in the afternoon.

“ Officers, having charge of working parties, are distinctly to understand,

derstand, that this duty is not confined to merely marching their party to and from their work : but it is a most essential part of it, and he strictly requires it of them, to see that the men perform their duty according to the direction of the superintending engineer ; and to exert all their activity and authority with the men under their command, in promoting the service assigned to them, as well as in assisting the engineer in forwarding the work pointed out. March 1801.

“The troops in camp are to parade regimentally, till further orders, half an hour after day-light in the morning, and half an hour before sun-set in the evening.

“The piquets will march out precisely at sun-set : the time will be taken from the regiment on the right of the first line ; and the beats will pass regularly from thence along the line ; and being taken up by regiment on the left of the second line, will return to the right of the second line.

“No man on piquet is, on any account, to undo his blanket at night. Half an hour after day-light a proportion of the piquet may be allowed to do so and lie down.

“The Commander in Chief desires that officers on duty, or in the neighbourhood of whose post any occurrence may take place, will

March 1801. not neglect to report every thing necessary to be known to head-quarters without delay.

“ The General Officer, in case of alarm or any other occurrence, will be pleased immediately to send an officer to report the circumstances to head-quarters, and if possible explain the cause.

“ It will be a general rule, unless otherwise specified, that all working parties shall carry their arms and accoutrements with them on duty. The men may wear their foraging caps.”

Tuesday 17. A flag of truce came in from the enemy with the information that Colonel Bryce of the guards had died in consequence of the wounds which he had received in the night of the 14th inst.

A part of the garrison of Fort Aboukir made a sortie against the works that had been thrown up against it. The marine officer and fifty men who manned them were not able to resist the assault; and, if the 2d or Queen's regiment had not fortunately arrived at this critical moment, the French, instead of being powerfully repulsed, would have possessed themselves of our battery.

Wednesd. 18. The garrison of Aboukir surrendered as prisoners of war, and the officers and men composing it were sent on board our fleet with
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the private property of each individual; a liberality of conduct March 1801. which, we may venture to assert, would not have been adopted by them, if the circumstances of the business had been reversed.

The articles of capitulation were as follow :

ART. I. The garrison of the Fort of Aboukir shall march out with the honours of war, standards unfurled, and lighted matches. It shall be conducted to Alexandria by sea, to be there exchanged for an equal number of prisoners, and shall engage not to serve after it has been exchanged.

Ans. The garrison shall surrender prisoners of war, and march out with the honours of war; and after having deposited its arms on the glacis, shall be transported on board the fleet.

ART. II. The officers shall retain their arms without exception, and as much of the property and effects, as well belonging to the officers as the troops, as possible. This article does not refer to any other than private property, and has no relation to military effects.

Ans. Granted, except the property, which ought to remain in its place, all shall be embarked within three hours.

March 1801.

ART. III. Twenty-four hours shall be allowed the garrison to dispose of its baggage before its departure.

Ans. This is answered by the second article.

ART. IV. Whatever belongs to the fortifications, artillery, and other effects, such as provisions, shall be delivered up to the conquerors in the state they shall be in, after an inventory has been drawn up by the officers of the two armies and civil agents. The papers relative to the service of the place shall also be delivered up.

Ans. Granted.

ART. V. The articles not foreseen shall be provided for and settled by the two parties. The conditions cannot take place till twenty-four hours after the decree of capitulation.

Ans. This is answered by Article III. Neither Egyptians nor Greeks shall be comprized in this capitulation.

DALHOUSIE, Colonel.

VINNACHE, Chief of Battalion of Artillery commanding the troops and Fort Aboukir.

Approved by the Commander in Chief.

J. HOPE, Adjutant-General.

The

The return of prisoners surrendered amounted to two chiefs of battalion, eight inferior officers, and one hundred and forty non-commissioned officers and privates. The return of ordnance and stores found in the fort were as follows: brass, four French 24-pounders, two ditto twelve inch mortars; iron, three French 8-pounders, three ditto 3-pounders; travelling carriages, four 24-pounders; standing ditto, three 8-pounders, and three 3-pounders; two iron beds for mortars, 800 round and 40 grape 24lb. shot, 100 round and 50 grape 8lb. shot, 600 empty shells, 90 barrels of gunpowder of 200lbs. each, 170 French musquets, 140 cartouch boxes, 200 musquet flints, and 5 cwt. of match, with a quantity of small stores, of which a particular account could not be taken. March 1801.

GEORGE COOKSON, Brigade Major, Royal Artillery.

The Turkish Captain Bey having arrived about the time when the fort of Aboukir was surrendered, the English and Turkish colours were both displayed on it.

In the evening a strong body of French cavalry was observed coming close in front of the left of our line, as was supposed for the purpose of reconnoitring our position; when a party of our cavalry immediately charged them: and there is every reason to suppose that very few of them would have returned to head quarters, if they had not been saved in their retreat by a corps of French riflemen, who had been previously posted behind a sand hill, in a state of unsuspected

March 1801. suspected ambush. The French continued to retreat, and our troops to follow, till they came to this place, when the riflemen discharged a volley which killed and wounded several of our men. This unexpected reception threw our cavalry into confusion, and they were much galled before they could get out of the reach of the enemy's musquetry.

In this skirmish Colonel Archdall, of the 12th regiment of dragoons, lost his arm; Lieutenant Harte was wounded, and the Hon. Captain Butler, Cornet Daniel, and Captain Charles Turner brigade major, were taken prisoners; seven rank and file and twenty-three horses were killed, one serjeant, six rank and file, and twelve horses were wounded; three officers, one quarter-master, twelve rank and file, and seven horses were missing. The loss of the enemy in this sharp combat could not be ascertained, though it may be fairly presumed that they did not escape without considerable loss.

The opinion which Sir Ralph Abercromby entertained of the affair of the preceding day, appears in the General Orders which were
Thursday 19. now issued;

GENERAL ORDERS.

Camp near
Alexandria,
March 19.

“The Commander in Chief trusts, that the occurrence which took place on the left yesterday afternoon, will serve as a warning to officers commanding detached parties, not to precipitate themselves

selves with unguarded impetuosity into enterprizes without object or without use. They will too well recollect, that engaging rashly in such enterprizes, and advancing without proper support, or pursuing advantages beyond what the occasion demands, or prudence warrants, they risk the lives of valuable men, and expose themselves to failure. March 1801.

“ No officer is, on any account, to carry out any detachment or piquet, without acquainting the general officer of the day, and obtaining his sanction, or having authority from head quarters so to do.

“ Patroles, as well as fixed posts, will be very particular and expeditious in their reports, and stating the circumstances that occur, or the appearances before them, minutely.

“ The General extremely disapproves of the practice of officers, whose duty does not call them thither, repairing, on all occasions, to out-posts ; and it is positively ordered, that no officers, the general and staff officers excepted, whose duty may render it necessary, shall pass the advanced piquets.”

Five hundred Turkish troops arrived this day, and disembarked at Aboukir.

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The

March 1801.

The army now experienced an interruption in the daily supply of provisions by the natives, which proceeded from the approach of Menou and his army from Cairo.

Friday 20.

In the morning, and a great distance in the Lake Mareotis, large troops of camels, and a very numerous train of animals, were seen passing towards Alexandria; but from the mist which is always hovering over the Lake, they could not be accurately distinguished. The general opinion concurred, that they belonged to Menou's army; and the conjecture was soon realized, for the French Commander in Chief actually arrived about noon at Alexandria, with a reinforcement of 9000 men from Cairo, and immediately made his disposition to attack us at an early hour the next morning.

That an attack was apprehended by Sir Ralph Abercromby, appears from the tenor of the General Orders which were now issued.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Camp near
Alexandria,
March 20.

" The troops are, until further orders, to be under arms half an hour before day-light, and not to be dismissed till half an hour after day-light.

" The 92d regiment will march to-morrow morning to Aboukir, to relieve the battalion of marines, which corps will march to camp
in

in the afternoon, and join the brigade under the command of Major-General Coote. March 1801.

“ The works on the left are to be completed in the course of this day and night, by Major-General Craddock's, and Major-General Earl Cavan's brigades. The reserve, and Brigadier-General Stuart's brigades will enclose the redoubt in their front by a ditch, and will make an encampment for two 12 pounders on the left of the ground occupied by the 28th regiment. The engineers to be careful to form magazines in every work which they may construct.

“ Patroles to be sent in every direction in the course of the night, and the greatest vigilance will be required from the officers on duty.

“ The troops are to be in readiness to turn out at a moment's warning.

“ The men's arms are immediately to be well flinted, and the whole completed to sixty rounds a man.

“ As it is possible that the enemy may be desperate enough to make a night attack, the General is under the necessity of requesting that the troops may remain with their accoutrements on, and lie in their blankets, in the position which they are to occupy in case of an attack.

K K 2

“ General

March 1801.

“ General officers will take care not to throw away fire during the dark, but to use the bayonet as much as possible ; at the same time, they must be fully aware that they are not to follow the enemy, or quit the position which they occupy, should an attack take place. It is also hoped, that the greatest silence, order and regularity will be observed.

“ The troops must be fully conscious of the glory which they have already acquired, and their superiority over the enemy whom they have so often beat ; but at the same time, prudence and discipline must be strongly recommended and enforced. With a little caution, the British army in Egypt will find that they are invincible.

“ The troops to be under arms at four o'clock to-morrow morning.”

The Turkish troops, which were yesterday landed at Aboukir, were ordered to encamp three miles in the rear of the army, to be out of the way, as it seemed, in case of an attack ; they had little better than the appearance of a rabble, with somewhat of a gaudy flutter about them, from the great number of their colours.

Saturday 21. Since the action of the 13th, the army had been encamped on the sand-heights, about four miles from Alexandria, having a sandy plain

plain in their front, the sea on their right, with the Canal of Alexandria, then dry, and the Lake of Aboukir, on their left.

March 1801.


During the interval, the boats of the fleet had been employed in getting up provisions to form a depot, with artillery of various calibres, and the necessary proportion of stores and ammunition.

Such was the position and state of the British army, when, about four in the morning, it was attacked by the whole French force, consisting of ten or eleven thousand men.

The army of the enemy was disposed in the following manner:

General Lanusse was on the left, with four demi-brigades of infantry, and a considerable body of cavalry, commanded by General Roize. The Generals Friant and Rampon were in the centre, with five demi-brigades; General Regnier on the right, with two demi-brigades, and two regiments of cavalry; General D'Estain commanded the advanced guard, consisting of one demi-brigade, some light troops, and a detachment of cavalry.

The action began by a false attack on the left, under the command of Major-General Craddock, where the enemy were quickly repulsed; but the real object of attack being on our right, the most impetuous bravery was directed to that quarter, with a considerable

March 1801. derable force of infantry, sustained by a strong body of cavalry, who charged in column, and with a degree of vigour, which the discipline, steadiness and courage of the British troops were alone qualified to resist. The French cavalry were continually intermingled with our infantry, as they found to their loss; but the enemy's charge was renewed in various forms, and as often repelled, till they were forced to retreat, leaving the field of battle strewed with their dead. It was, however, impracticable, from the inferiority of cavalry, to have rendered the victory more complete; and the French accordingly retreated in good order, under the fire of their own batteries, with which they had strengthened the opposite hills.

From the materials which I have obtained respecting this memorable battle, I find it so difficult to give a detailed account of all its operations and circumstances, that I shall not make the attempt. The official accounts afford no more than a general outline, with which every one is acquainted: and the narratives of those who were engaged in the heat of the day, must be partial, cannot always be correct, and will sometimes, from various natural circumstances, contradict each other. I shall, however, return to give an account, written by one who relates no more than what he saw, felt and acted, and who observed as much as the nature of his situation and the activity of his service would allow him.

About four o'clock in the morning we were under arms, according

ing to the general orders, since we had landed in this country ; but March 1801,
the men had not fallen into their ranks, when a smart fire of small
arms was heard to the left of the line. We accordingly marched down
to the alarm post, which was about an hundred yards from the en-
campment, and soon after we could plainly see the French army
coming down upon us in two solid columns : nor did we wait long
in expectation of a most active and spirited attack ; for they came
on with great noise, and shouting Vive la France ! Vive la Repub-
lic ! But their exclamations were soon silenced by the resolution of
the 23d, 28th, and 42d regiments, with the four flank companies of
the 40th, who gave them such a reception as checked their impe-
tuosity. They then found it necessary to form their columns, and
kept up a very heavy cannonade and fire of musquetry for about
an hour, and which we returned without ceasing, till the ammuni-
tion of our great guns, as well as small arms, was exhausted.
During this unpleasant interval we remained under the enemy's fire ;
but no sooner did a supply arrive, than they were made to feel the
effects of it, and obliged to retire with great slaughter.

Another body of the enemy possessed themselves for a moment
of the ruins of an old palace, which was to the left of the redoubt ;
but the 42d regiment attacked them there with the bayonet, and
after a great havoc among them, the rest laid down their arms, and
surrendered themselves prisoners of war.

The

March 1801.

The French infantry being baffled and repulsed in every attack with great destruction, the power of their cavalry, in which they were greatly our superior, was now to be tried in one brave and desperate effort. Indeed, many of them appeared to have been animated by strong liquors, as they could not recover themselves after having made a stroke with their sabres, but fell from their horses, as it appeared in a state of intoxication. They made a most furious charge round the right of the redoubt where the 42d regiment was posted, and which could not altogether resist the fury of the onset. This circumstance being quickly observed by Colonel Spencer, who commanded the flank companies of the 40th, he immediately wheeled them to the left to flank the enemy, on whom he opened such a powerful fire, that they were immediately thrown into confusion, and sounded a retreat. By this time the 42d had recovered themselves, and attacked them with such spirit and vigour, that very few of those who had passed the redoubt had the good fortune to escape. The far greater part were either killed, wounded, or taken prisoners.

During the time we were engaged with the cavalry, a column of French infantry charged a small work that was about an hundred yards from the redoubt, which they carried, and turned its guns against the redoubt; but before they could effect their design of employing them, they were attacked by our two grenadier companies, who retook the work and a few prisoners, and turned the guns
against

against a column of the enemy which had formed and appeared to be coming on to charge the battery; but a few shot being thrown into the midst of them, they desisted from their object, and immediately dispersed. The whole French army, now retreated to their position near Alexandria, and left the field of battle to the possession of the victors. March 1801.

It was an arduous contest, and nobly won. We sustained a considerable loss; but the plain was covered with the wounded and dead of the enemy; among whom were many officers of rank and distinction. Nor will the British army of Egypt, amidst the pride of its victory, ever cease to regret the loss of their able, excellent, and beloved Commander in Chief, Sir Ralph Abercromby, who was wounded in the heat of the battle, and a few days after died of his wound.

I shall make no apology for inserting, in this place, the sketch which Mr. Baldwin has given with so much spirit and effect of this battle! He had nothing to do but to observe, and having no particular occupation attached to his person, he could observe the whole. The fruits of his observation he has given in the following terms:

“ Our position in front was along a line drawn from the Lake Aboukir on the left, to the sea on our right. From the lake is a

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flat

March 1801. flat for about five hundred yards; then a rising ground for about a mile; then a valley of about six hundred yards, from whence the ground rises quite to the sea.

“ The hope and object of this attack was to cut off all our reserve encamped from the centre to the right.

“ A louis-d'or per man had been offered by the French Commander in Chief to any thousand of his army, who would undertake to turn our right, and take the battery which defended it. Bonaparte's invincible legion, consisting of nine hundred men, volunteered for the service. At the same time that these should turn our right, the main body of the French army was to break our line in the centre, turn to the left, and envelope our reserve. At the moment this was executed, the French cavalry, fifteen hundred in number, were to charge the body so enveloped, and cut them to pieces.

“ The nine hundred of Bonaparte's invincible legion succeeded in turning our right between the walls of a large ruin and our battery. They stormed the battery three times, and the successive parties were successively exterminated.

“ Our reserve, the 42d and 28th, finding the enemy in their rear, faced about, charged them with the bayonet, and drove them back
step

step by step into the inclosure of the ruin. Six hundred and fifty of these invincibles were already extended on the ground: the remaining two hundred and fifty called for quarter, and obtained it. Not a man of them returned.

March 1801.

“ At the time this was doing, the main body of the French army, in an heavy column, broke through our line into the valley, and forced along the valley towards the rear of our camp. The cavalry accompanying this movement, the instant they broke through our line, wheeled to their left, and directed their charge to the rear of our reserve: but this charge was broken by the accidental state of the ground, over which the cavalry had to make their charge. It was all over excavated into pit-holes, about three feet deep, with the sand raised about the banks another foot or two, as convenient places for our soldiers to sleep in, before the tents were landed for this service. Over these holes the French charged, and were completely routed in its consequences: three hundred of them perished in this adventure.

“ Our reserve, completely disengaged from the most imminent hazard by these two ever-memorable events, faced about again to the enemy, with the centre of our army in the valley, and were in time to do more good service.

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“ It

March 1801.

“ It was there the Commander in Chief was engaged in person.

When, after the first alarm, he went towards the cannonading, he must have rode straight among the enemy already broke into the rear of our front, and as it was not yet day, and not being able to distinguish friend from foe, he undoubtedly had the misfortune to get embarrassed among them. But he was extricated by the valour of his own troops. To the first soldier who came up to him, he said—Soldier, if you know me, don't name me. He was rescued; and, at this moment, a French dragoon, conceiving the prize which he had lost, rode up to the General amidst his own guard, and made a cut at him, but not being quite near enough, just cut through the coat, waistcoat and shirt, and with the point of his sabre only grazed the skin. At the same moment the dragoon's horse wheeling about, brought him to the charge again, and he made a second attempt by lunge; but the sabre passed between the General's side and his right arm, which he instantly closed. The dragoon being at this instant shot dead, the sabre remained in the General's possession. About this time it was perceived that the General had been wounded in the thigh, and was entreated to have it examined; but he treated it as a trifle, and would not disappear for a moment.

“ The conflict was very long after this; very obstinate, very fluctuating, and very alarming. In some parts our ammunition was expended;

expended; but the French most probably wanting ammunition likewise, or wanting something at least which our brave army never wanted to the last, retreated. March 1801.

“ Sir Ralph Abercromby had been two hours wounded, but would not withdraw from the field. Knowing the value of his presence, or judging with equal certainty the bad effects of his absence from the army at this critical conjuncture, he persevered; nor till the battle was won did he yield to the sentiment of his pain. When he saw the enemy retreat, on the moment when his spirits began to subside, he fainted. His wound was now examined; a large incision was made to extract the ball, but it could not be found. He was accordingly put upon a litter, and taken on board Lord Keith's ship the *Foudroyant*. On the 28th he died. Nor shall we hesitate to employ the language of Lord Hutchinson, and better it would be impossible to form, on the affecting occasion. ‘ It is some consolation to those who tenderly loved him, that as his life was honourable, so his death was glorious. His memory will be recorded in the annals of his country; will be sacred to every British soldier, and embalmed in the recollection of a grateful posterity.’ ”

It would be very difficult to express in happier terms the conduct of the British army in the attainment of this most important victory, than those which form the concluding part of his Lord-

March 1891. ship's official letter: we shall, therefore, take the liberty to adopt them.

"It is impossible to do justice to the zeal of the officers, and to the gallantry of the soldiers of this army. The reserve, against whom the principal attack of the enemy was directed, conducted themselves with unexampled spirit. They resisted the impetuosity of the French infantry, and repulsed several charges of cavalry. Major-General Moore was wounded at their head, though not dangerously. The temporary absence, however, from the army of this highly valuable and meritorious officer, whose counsel and co-operation would have been so highly necessary to me at this moment, was greatly to be regretted. Brigadier-General Oakes was wounded nearly at the same time, and the army has been deprived of the service of an excellent officer. The 28th and 42d regiments acted in the most distinguished and brilliant manner. Colonel Paget, an officer of great promise, was wounded at the head of the former regiment: he has since, though not quite recovered, returned to his duty. Brigadier-General Stuart, and the foreign brigade, supported the reserve with much promptness and spirit; indeed, it is but justice to this corps to say, that they have on all occasions endeavoured to emulate the zeal and spirit exhibited by the British troops, and have perfectly succeeded. Major-General Ludlow deserves much approbation for his conduct when the centre of the army was attacked: under his guidance, the Guards con-

ducted themselves in the most cool, intrepid, and soldier-like manner: they received very effectual support by a movement of the right of General Coote's brigade. Brigadier-General Hope was wounded in the hand; and the army has been deprived of the service of a most active, zealous, and judicious officer."

March 1801.

The return of the killed and wounded amounted to ten officers, nine serjeants, two hundred and twenty-four rank and file, and two horses, killed. Sixty officers, forty-eight serjeants, three drummers, one thousand and eighty-two rank and file, and three horses, wounded. Three officers, one serjeant, and twenty-eight rank and file, missing.

The officers whose fate is to be lamented on this occasion were; 3d Guards, Ensign Campbell; 42d regiment, Major Bisset, Lieutenants Colin Campbell, Robert Anderson, and A. Stewart; 58th regiment, Lieutenant Jocelyn; Stewart's regiment, Colonel Dutens, and Lieutenants Duverguier and Dejean; 2d battalion of the 54th, Captain J. Gibson.

The loss of the enemy in this battle does not appear to have been ascertained with any degree of accuracy. The reports of deserters were various, and General Regnier, amid the fallacy and bombast of his account, does not choose to mention the circumstance. On a moderate computation, however, the killed, wounded, and prisoners of the French

March 1801.

French army, did not amount to less than four thousand men. General Roize, who commanded the French cavalry, was killed in the field; the Generals Lanusse and Rodet died of their wounds, and several general officers were either killed or wounded*.

Two pieces of cannon alone were taken, and the famous standard of the invincible legion, with their numerous victories emblazoned on it, became the prize of those brave soldiers whose courage annihilated the corps to which it belonged. This splendid trophy has been since brought to England, and is now hung up in the metropolitan church of the united kingdoms, as a grateful offering to that God who giveth the victory.

The following curious military document, which serves to illustrate, in some degree, the progress of the battle which has just been related, was found in the pocket of General Roize, when the body of that gallant officer was discovered among the slain.

Copy of General Menou's Orders, (Commander in Chief of the French Army in Egypt,) relative to the Attack of the 21st of March 1801, which he gave out the day before.

Dated Head Quarters, Alexandria, March 20, 1801.

“ The army will attack the English to-morrow, and the whole of the

* From subsequent accounts it appears that the loss of the enemy amounted to five thousand.

the troops consequently will be under arms, at three o'clock precisely, without drum beating, or any kind of noise whatever, at two hundred paces in front of the camp, which is beyond the gate of Rosetta. March 1801.

“ The general attack will commence at half an hour before day-break, that is to say, at half-past four o'clock the army will form in the following order for battle, viz.

“ The division of Regnier, composed of the 13th and 85th demi-brigades, will incline its right towards the bridge, upon the Canal of Alexandria, in front of the camp.

“ The division of General Friant, composed of the 25th, 61st, and 71st demi-brigade, will be on the left of the division of Regnier. To the left of the division of Friant, and consequently in the centre, will be the column under the command of D'Estaing, composed of the 21st demi-brigade: two companies of the 25th demi-brigade picked grenadiers will form as the advanced guard. To the left of the column of D'Estaing will be the division of Rampon, composed of the 32d demi-brigade; and three companies of carbiniers belonging to the 2d light battalion, will form the centre of the army with the column of D'Estaing. The division of Lanusse, composed of the 4th, 18th, 69th, and 88th demi-brigades, will be

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to

March 1801. to the left of the division of Rampon; this division will extend itself to the sea.

“ The résultat of this order is, that the division of Regnier and Friant will form the right wing; the division of D'Estaing and Rampon the centre; and the division of Lanusse the left wing of the army.

“ A light corps will commence the false attack on the left of the enemy, at the same time the real attack begins. This corps will be composed of the regiment of dromedaries, and three hundred cavalry: three hundred cavalry will also be posted on the right of the army beyond the canal, to annoy the enemy by throwing sharp shot in advancing.

“ The manœuvre will commence when the false attack is made by the dromedary corps, and they will follow the orders of General Regnier.

“ The remainder of the cavalry of the army will form in the rear of the centre; the artillery of reserve will be placed in the rear of the cavalry, and their rear will be composed of their dismounted guards.

“ The

March 1801,

"The grand attack will be made by the left wing of the army under the command of General Lanusse; and by the centre, commanded by the Generals Rampon and D'Estaing. They will push with the bayonet to the redoubt in front of their position; at the same time the right wing of the army, commanded by General Regnier; will move gently on until the left shall be warmly engaged. The centre will then advance rapidly, attacking and routing whatever may oppose its progress.

"When the positions of the right and centre of the enemy are carried, and all the first line broken, it will be necessary that the French army should form again, for the attack of the second line. The sharp shooters alone are here excepted.

"Movements upon the second line of the enemy.

"The left wing will commence the attack; its right will advance gently, and the centre will be guided by its movements; while the right wing will keep the whole of the enemy's left in check. The design of this movement is to endeavour to force the English into the Lake Madie.

"General Roize, commanding the cavalry, will keep his eye on every movement of the enemy, and take advantage of the ground to drive back and destroy such as have been put in confusion by the infantry.

M M 2

" General

March 1801.

“ General Roize will likewise be attentive to employ the artillery usefully, and to keep a watchful eye on the gun-boats of the enemy's flank. We may find it necessary to disperse them with a few 12 pounders.

“ The Generals commanding divisions will employ artillery on divisions or battalions, in a manner which may appear most advantageous. This relates also to the General commanding the cavalry.

“ The Generals commanding divisions will form the heads of their columns in attack, as well as their second line, as they may judge to be most advantageous.

“ The General in Chief will attend to the whole and give the necessary orders, in case any new circumstances should present themselves.

Signed,

“ MENOU.

“ LE GRANGE.”

Sunday 22. On the following day orders were issued to continue the general discipline and vigilance of the army, as it had been arranged previous to the late battle.

Monday 23. A flag of truce was sent to Alexandria with an offer to the French army, that if they would surrender, they should be immediately

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sent

sent to France, with their small arms, colours, and private property; leaving the artillery and shipping then at Alexandria. The answer was to the following purport:

March 1801.

“ That the French army could not listen to such ignoble terms, and that any future propositions of a similar nature would not even be received. At the same time the British Commander in Chief was desired to accept the sincere acknowledgments which he so well merited, for the very humane care and attention which had been manifested to the wounded officers and soldiers of the French army, whom the fortune of war had submitted to his power.”

The following orders were issued by Major-General Hely Hutchinson, in the absence of the Commander in Chief: Tuesday 21.

“ Major-General Hely Hutchinson has received directions from his Excellency the Commander in Chief, to thank the whole of the troops for their conspicuous and brilliant conduct in the action of the 21st instant; a conduct which has dismayed an insolent enemy, has raised the glory of their country, and established their reputation for ever.

Camp near
Alexandria,
March 24.

“ To Major-General Moore, Brigadier-General Oakes, and the reserve, no acknowledgments are sufficient. Major-General Moore has considerably added to those essential services which he has already

March 1801.

already rendered to the army ; and the Commander in Chief sincerely hopes, that both he and Brigadier-General Oakes will be soon enabled to resume those situations which they have sustained so honourably to themselves, and so advantageously to the public.

“ The 28th and 42d regiments made the noblest stand against a superior force. Colonel Paget is entitled to the highest degree of applause ; while the support given to the reserve, by Brigadier-General Stewart and the fifth brigade, was as gallant as it was prompt, and entirely confirmed the fortunate issue of that brilliant day.

“ Major-General Ludlow, and the brigade of guards, will also accept the thanks of his Excellency the Commander in Chief, for the cool, steady, and soldier-like manner in which they repulsed the attack of the enemy's column.

“ Major-General Hutchinson has sincerely to regret that a wound, though not dangerous, has deprived the army, for a moment, of the presence of the Commander in Chief, who, in all the different actions, was ever the first to lead them to danger and glory. The army will judge of the feelings of Major-General Hutchinson by their own : it will, however, considerably diminish their regret, when they are informed that the superintending care of the Commander in Chief still watches over them ; and that the most sanguine
hopes

hopes are entertained that he will soon be restored to perfect health, March 1801.
and resume those functions which he has already exercised in a
manner that entitles him to the gratitude of his country, and to the
admiration of the gallant men whom he has the good fortune to
command.

“The army having been deprived of the temporary services of
Brigadier-General Hope, by a wound which he received in the late
action, the General regrets much the absence of that gallant, judi-
cious, and excellent officer.”

“Officers are cautioned against bringing to camp more baggage
than they absolutely want, as, in case of the army moving, no
means can be found of transporting it.”

The Captain Pacha arrived in Aboukir Bay with three sail of the Thursday 26.
line, two frigates, and some corvettes, with the gun-boats that
quitted the English fleet in its passage from Marmorice, and several
transports, having on board about five thousand Turkish troops.

The Turkish troops were landed at Aboukir, and pitched their Saturday 28.
camp about three miles from thence, in a place where there was
water. These men were generally armed with Tower musquets,
which were new, but out of order, and without bayonets. A few
of them were armed with rifle pieces. They were all very indif-
ferently

March 1801. ferently cloathed, except about an hundred and fifty of the marines of the Captain Pacha's ship. That officer commanded the whole, and generally in person. He brought with him sixty horses of a tolerable appearance; he had also twelve of a superior breed, which were sent as presents to the general officers of the British army.

This day Sir Ralph Abereromby died on board Admiral Lord Keith's flag ship, the *Foudroyant*: and Major-General Hely Hutchinson succeeded to the command of the British forces in Egypt.

CHAPTER VIII.

State of the British and French Armies after the Battle of the 21st of March—Expedition under Colonel Spencer to Aboukir—The Capture of that Place—Lord Keith takes his Station off Alexandria—The Troops commanded by Colonel Spencer proceed towards Rosetta—Circumstances of the March—The French retreat from Rosetta to Fort St. Julian—Description of Rosetta and the surrounding Country—Colonel Spencer's Detachment arrives before Fort St. Julian—The French in Alexandria attempt to seduce the Foreign Troops in the British Service—The Garrison of Fort St. Julian summoned to surrender—The British Army cut Dykes in order to inundate Lake Marcotis, &c.—New Dispositions of Colonel Spencer's Detachment—Total of British and Turkish Forces which compose it—English Gun-boats brought into the Nile—Their Success—Batteries erected against Fort St. Julian—Its Surrender, &c. Sir John Borlase Warren joins Lord Keith—The Captain Pacha arrives in the Camp of Hamed—General Orders—Arrangements of the Army near Alexandria—General Hutchinson transfers his Head Quarters to Rosetta—Admiral Blanket arrives at Suez—French Ship, laden with Stores, wrecked near Alexandria—General and Camp Orders—Message from Osman Bey—General Orders—The British and Turkish Forces proceed towards Rahmanieh—A Body of Troops detached, under the Command of Colonel Stewart, to the Eastern Bank of the Nile—Progress of the Army towards Rahmanieh—The French desert their Post

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at El-Aft, which is occupied by the British and Turks—Further Advantages gained—The French retreat from Rahmanieh, leaving a Garrison in the Fort, which immediately surrenders.

March 1891.

SUCH was the present state of the British army from the losses which it had sustained in officers and men, that it was compelled, as it were, to adopt a defensive position, though it was now reinforced by five thousand Turks: at the same time the advantages which it possessed were equally evident and important.

We certainly had it in our power, at any time, to have inundated the Lake Mareotis, by cutting away a part of the banks of the canal which serve to keep in the waters of the Aboukir Lake; and thus, by encompassing the enemy so closely by these waters, to cut off their communication with the interior of Egypt, and consequently their supplies, which must be derived from thence. We had also the means of annoying them by our armed boats, and frequent disembarkations of troops at unexpected points around the place of their confinement. But if the British should be compelled to remain in its present position so long as the month of August, the supply of water from the Nile might be cut off, and the French, in such a terrible situation as a total deprivation of water, must be compelled to submit to the terms proposed to them. Besides, the Turks, encouraged by the defeats which the French had sustained, and animated by an enthusiasm to revenge the insults which had been

been offered to their religion, might be induced to give full activity to the increasing number of their forces; so that the French army, without the least hope of succour or relief, would be at length obliged to submit to a capitulation, without having the means of fighting to prevent it. March 1801.

Our troops were now employed in strengthening and entrenching the camp before Alexandria, in erecting batteries and getting guns up to them; for though the heavy artillery were up the Lake so early as the 17th instant, only one or two 24-pounders appear to have been mounted, and the field pieces were so short of ammunition that, during a part of the action, the right of the army was deprived of the most effectual means of operation: the infantry also waited some time for ammunition, as the depot was three miles from the spot; and the horses procured at Marmorice not being sufficiently broke in to draw the loaded waggons of supply, they were dragged on by the boats crews who happened at the time to be at the depot.

The French also, after the battle of the 21st, were actively occupied in fortifying their works without Alexandria, so that both camps were considered as impregnable.

General Hutchinson acted with the prudence and precaution suited to his situation. He had reason to expect some re-inforce-

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ments

March 1801. ments from Europe, as well as the arrival of a considerable number of troops at Suez by the passage of the Red Sea from India. At the same time, however, he did not remain in a complete state of inactivity, but made successive attacks on those posts occupied by the French, which, might facilitate the march of the British army to Cairo, should that become a necessary operation.

APRIL.
Wednesd. 1. The four flank companies of the 40th, and the 58th regiment, received orders to hold themselves in readiness to march.

Thursday 2. The flank companies of the 40th, and the 58th regiment, marched under the command of Colonel Spencer to Aboukir, where they were joined by five thousand Turkish troops, such as they were, commanded by the Captain Pacha in person.

Monday 6. This detachment halted at Aboukir during the three successive days, and on the sixth marched to the isthmus that leads to the Block-house ferry: but, in consequence of a very high wind, which caused the sea to run over it into the Lake, it was thought too dangerous to attempt it, so that the troops returned to the ground which they had quitted.

Tuesday 7. They passed the ferries of the two lakes of Aboukir and Madie, and lay on their arms for the night.

Intel-

Intelligence having been received that seven sail of the line, a frigate, and some corvettes, full of troops, had got out of Toulon; Lord Keith stationed himself, with seven ships of the line, off Alexandria, and generally at anchor. He was joined by two Turkish ships of the line. The other Turkish ships, one a three decker, and a seventy-four, remained at anchor in Aboukir Bay.

April 1801.

The Rosetta detachment continued their route to a small town called Elko, about the distance of eight miles from the ferry. A party of French cavalry evacuated this place the preceding day; but not before they had plundered the miserable inhabitants of every thing which they could carry with them, and murdering those who attempted to escape with the small property they might possess.

Wednesd. 8.

This town is situated on the bank of the Lake Mareotis, and at the distance of about three miles from the sea. It is in a very ruinous condition, and many of the houses were covered with the sand that is blown from the desert.

As the troops entered this miserable place, the men met them with white wands in their hands, as a token of friendship, and saluted them with the most humble obeisance. The salutation of the women consisted in a succession of discordant shoutings. These people are of a copper colour, and appear to exceed even the Turks in filth and dirti-

April 1801.

ness. The women, who are very ugly, wear a kind of coarse veil, with two small holes in it opposite the eyes.

There is no cultivation about the place, nor within some miles of it, as it is situated in a part of the desert where nothing will grow but date trees and melons. It contains two wells of brackish water, which the French, with their usual cruelty, had endeavoured to render useless by filling them with sand. Their wretched intentions, however, proved fruitless, and the wells were sufficiently cleared, and restored to their necessary use.

The chief food of these Arabs, who are all fishermen, is the produce of the lake, and rice, which they procure in exchange for their fish.

The troops marched onward in the evening about two miles, and lay on their arms for the night.

Thursday 9.

In the morning they pursued their course across the desert for Rosetta, which is about fourteen miles distant from Elko. When the troops arrived within three miles of that place, the Sheik of the town came to inform us that the French had evacuated it, and crossed the river; but had left a garrison in Fort Julian, on the entrance of the Rosetta branch of the Nile, about three miles from the town.

This

This was a most toilsome march, the sand-hills, which are formed by the wind, being so deep, that their ascent and descent were equally difficult. From the vicinity of a watch tower, about a mile from Rosetta, and on the banks of the river, the French troops were seen marching in open column on the opposite side of it. An howitzer and a 6-pounder were accordingly brought up, and a few shot fired among them. What execution was done by this attack could not be distinguished, but if a judgment might be formed from the activity with which they removed from the reach of the shot, the latter had not been discharged without some serious effect.

April 1801.

Here the Arabs came out to meet the troops; the higher orders bearing, according to their custom, the white rods, which they use as emblems of friendship; while the lower classes came loaded with fresh water, the most welcome present that could be offered to the parched and thirsty soldiers. They were also very much refreshed in passing by the gardens at the entrance of the town, the odours of whose flowers, and the sight of whose fruit trees, were inexpressibly grateful to the senses of men, after such a fatiguing march, over a barren and burning sand.

Though Rosetta is a place of considerable importance, it is but moderately built: the streets are very narrow, and must be very gloomy, as the stories of the houses, which are three or four in height, project one over the other, so as nearly to touch at the top.

The

April 1801.

The houses on the bank of the Nile, and which are, in general, occupied by foreign merchants, are not subject to that and other inconveniences which prevail in the interior parts of the city. Besides, they enjoy a delightful prospect of the river, and its moving objects, with the Delta beyond it, and its abundant cultivation, sprinkled with towns and villages, whose spires and minarets add a picturesque beauty to the luxuriant scene.

The environs of Rosetta are well cultivated, and produce an abundance of wheat, barley, rice, and different kinds of delicious fruits and vegetables, which were purchased at a reasonable price.

The troops continued their march about two miles beyond the town, when they formed in line, and erected their huts before Fort St. Julian.

The French in Alexandria endeavoured to seduce the foreign corps, Homspech's regiment of cavalry, in the British service, to desert, by issuing proclamations, that they would receive them into the service of the Republic, or send them to their own country. In consequence of this insidious measure, three or four of that regiment did actually desert; and it was strongly suspected that the greater part of the detachment of 200 men, then with our army, meditated a similar design. General Hutchinson, therefore, ordered them

them to be dismounted, and sent them to garrison Aboukir castle, April 1801.
with a company of Turkish soldiers.

The garrison of Fort St. Julian was summoned to surrender, and Friday 10.
terms of capitulation offered, which were peremptorily refused.

The French fired a feu de joye of all the guns in the fortifications in Alexandria, and at the same time displayed, in the front of their position, the French, Imperial, Russian, and Neapolitan colours.

A reconnoitring party was detached under the command of an Saturday 11,
engineer, to fix on a proper position for the erection of batteries.

The same morning another flag of truce was sent into the fort, to make a second proposal of surrender, and to spare the effusion of blood, which must be the certain consequence of the garrison's obstinate refusal of the terms proposed. It was represented to them, that their force was inadequate to any effectual resistance, and that if the place was taken by storm, it would be impossible to restrain the Turks, who formed a part of the besieging force, to the amount of 5000 men, from gratifying their vengeance by the most cruel exercise of their power.

The answer from the fort was to the following effect:

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“ That

April 1801.

“ That the garrison would maintain themselves to the utmost, by every means in their power, for the advantage and honour of their country ; at the same time, if the fort should be actually stormed, they would trust to the honour of the English ; though they could not but express their astonishment, that such a brave and honourable people as the English were acknowledged to be, should join with such a barbarous rabble, who rejected discipline, disdained the principles of honourable war, and would not be subject to command.”

The same evening a party of the French having come out of the fort, in order to burn some houses which they thought might serve to cover our approach, were attacked by a party of Arabs, who lay concealed among some trees, and lost two of their men : the heads of these French soldiers were immediately severed from their body, and being fixed on pikes, were borne by their savage destroyers, in the most brutal triumph, to the Turkish camp.

The British army began to cut four dykes of twenty-eight feet broad, in order to inundate the dry Lake of Mareotis, for the purpose of cutting off all communication between Alexandria and the country ; they were cut across the canal of Alexandria, and would consequently deprive that place of the annual supply of water, by the rise of the Nile in the month of September.

Sunday 12.

The four flank companies of the 40th regiment were ordered to
march

march to a place called Hamed, about five miles up the river Nile, and join the right wing of our detachment; the 2d, or Queen's regiment, and 1000 Turks, were left for the reduction of the fort. They reached Hamed about nine o'clock in the morning, and, in the course of the day, the second battalion of the 1st Royals arrived there from Alexandria.

April 1801.

This detachment now consisted of the four flank companies of the 40th regiment, the 2d battalion of the first Royals, 100 artillery, 100 of the 11th light dragoons, the 58th regiment, a battalion of regular Turkish infantry consisting of 1000 men, 700 Turkish artillery, 1000 irregular Turks and Greeks, and 900 Turkish marines.

Total of the English troops 1420

———— Turkish troops 3600

Total of the detachment 5020

In the course of the evening the Arabs came running in from the different villages in the front of our encampment, driving their cattle before them, and with all the moveables which they were able to carry. Their alarm proceeded from a body of French, amounting to 3000 men, whom they represented as advancing in our front. In consequence of this information, the piquets were doubled for the night.

April 1801.

Monday 13.

Tuesday 14.

Reconnoitring parties were sent out five miles in front of our line, but did not discover the least appearance of an enemy. It however appeared afterwards, that a large foraging party of the French had been in the villages on the opposite side of the river, indulging their usual spirit of pillage and massacre.

Wednesd. 15.

Fatigue parties were ordered from the different corps, to draw the gun-boats from the upper part of Lake Mareotis to the River Nile, which was a distance of about three miles.

Thursday 16.

Seven of the gun-boats had been got into the Nile with great labour, when they were immediately manned with sailors, and conducted to the mouth of the river, against those of the enemy, which were stationed there. On the same day the Turkish gun-boats arrived by sea, so that a junction being formed, an attack was immediately made, and the French boats were soon disabled or destroyed.

While this enterprize was proceeding, a part of the detachment was employed in throwing up works for the attack of the fort. In the course of the evening the 18th and 90th regiments arrived from Alexandria.

Friday 17.

The batteries, being now completed, were opened against Fort St. Julian. Reconnoitring parties were also sent about nine miles

miles up the river, but there was not the least appearance of an enemy. April 1801.

A very melancholy accident happened in the course of the night to an officer of the Queen's regiment: Having the command of the trenches against the fort, he thought proper to order his sentinels to fire on any person coming from the fort, and without a previous challenge. To the punctual execution of this order he himself fell a victim. In going his rounds, he got nearer to the fort than he intended, and, in returning to the trenches, was shot through the body by one of his own sentinels, and died.

The *Swift* cutter arrived from England: she had, on the 29th of March, passed through the French fleet of seven sail of the line, and four others, to the south of Sardinia, steering as if on their return to Toulon.

The 8th, 30th, 79th, and 89th regiments, joined the Rosetta detachment from the grand army. Sunday 19.

About ten in the morning the garrison of Fort St. Julian surrendered: it consisted of eleven officers, two hundred and sixty-four men, sixteen guns of different calibres, two mortars, and two howitzers. Four gun-boats were found in the Nile, close under the walls of the fort, with twelve guns in each, but in a very shattered

April 1801. tered condition. The capitulation was in the same terms as that which had been lately granted to the Fort of Aboukir.

This was a very important operation, as it rendered the British army masters of the Western branch of the Nile, with the navigation of that river. A communication was hereby opened with the Delta, an abundant source of necessary supplies.

This service was executed by Colonel Spencer, with great zeal, spirit, and military ability.

Monday 20. Reconnoitring parties continued to be sent out, but there was no appearance of an enemy.

Sir John Borlase Warren, after an anxious but vain pursuit of the French fleet in the Mediterranean, joined Lord Keith with six sail of the line.

Tuesday 21. The Captain Pacha arrived in the camp, and received a complimentary invitation from Colonel Spencer to see the English troops under arms. Accordingly, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, the line was turned out to receive him, as he passed, with colours and presented arms: The ceremonial was also heightened by a salute from the park of artillery. This mark of respect, however, the Turkish commander received with a kind of sullen dignity, and walked
along

along the line, without deigning to turn his eyes towards the gallant body of men who were attending him as an object of military honour.

April 1801.

In the evening the Queen's regiment from Fort Julian joined the main body of the detachment.

EXTRACT FROM GENERAL ORDERS,

Dated Camp before Alexandria, April 22, 1801.

"The Hon. Major-General Hutchinson is pleased to appoint Major-General Coote to be second in command.

Wednesd. 22.

"During the absence of Major-General Hutchinson, the division of the army here will report to Major-General Coote, who will immediately take upon himself the command accordingly.

"In consequence of its being found necessary to detach a considerable part of the cavalry, and as that corps continuing brigaded any longer will be attended with inconvenience, Major-General Finch will be pleased to take charge of the first brigade of the line."

General Hutchinson having strengthened his position between Aboukir and Alexandria, not only by a range of works in front, but by the channels he opened for inundation, transferred his headquarters to Rosetta, in order to proceed against Rhamanieh, where the French had assembled a considerable force.

The

April 1801.

The Commander immediately issued the following camp orders:

“ When there is a well-grounded alarm of the approach of the enemy, unless directions are issued to the contrary, the following few movements will immediately take place :

“ The corps of Albanians will proceed towards the left of the canal, and line themselves thereon beyond the outer bank, in loose files, leaving on their left an hundred yards for the formation of the 30th regiment.

“ The 30th regiment will move to the left, and station themselves on the ground beyond the camp-way, ready to move to their ultimate post on the left of the canal, as the intention of the enemy will be more clearly ascertained.

“ The eighth will advance from its line to the elbow of the canal where the Turkish guns are, and strengthen that line. In the first movement it will remain on that side of the embankment.

“ The reserve will stand upon their own ground, but in immediate readiness to take up a more advanced position, as Colonel Spencer shall judge necessary from the accounts he shall receive from the piquets on the right, or from those he may have sent out to procure more exact information.

“ The artillery will at once form themselves in their respective stations ; and the moveable force, in the centre of the British line, be ready instantaneously to proceed as may be directed. The cavalry will be immediately formed, but to await further orders. April 1801.

“ Should the approach of the body of the enemy in force be ascertained, it will no longer be the duty of the piquets to contend with them ; but the field officer of the day, under the direction of the colonel, will take measures for their retreat to the short canal in the best order ; each of the captain's piquets collecting and retreating strait upon the rear. A further order from the field officer or colonel of the day will be necessary for their retreat from thence to the long canal.

“ The piquets on the right being on the canal, and therefore so far retired, will have to conduct themselves differently, and wait as long as possible till reinforced.

“ Every necessary communication will be made ; and it will be the duty of all officers to make themselves early acquainted with the shortest and best routes to all the stations in the army, and not wait till the moment of exigency.

“ Lieutenant-Colonel Lithendahl will be so good as to communicate this disposition to the Kai Bey, and request that the remain-

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der

April 1801. der of the Turkish force, when employed in advance, may be kept in perfect order and silence, and in readiness to move as circumstances may require."

Thursday 23.

At about five in the morning the attention of the whole camp was attracted by a very heavy cannonade at sea; and it was the general opinion that a French fleet had arrived and was engaged with our own. Every one who had the opportunity hastened to the heights in order to see the result; but our mortification may be better conceived than expressed, when it was known that all this discharge of artillery proceeded from the ships of war and gun-boats belonging to the Turks, in honour of some festival peculiar to themselves. But this was not all; for as soon as the ships had ceased firing, it was renewed in every possible way with great guns and small arms by the Turkish part of the camp. In this particular, as in almost every other, they are woefully deficient in discipline: they are fond of firing away the ammunition, as in sport, during their march; and it is dangerous to pass through their lines when they are in a state of encampment; as it is a favourite diversion with them to sit calmly at the doors of their own tents, and fire balls at the knobs or other wooden projections which decorate those around them. Though persons are frequently wounded in consequence of this strange amusement, the habits and discipline of the Turks will not admit of any regulation to prevent it.

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An account was received at head-quarters, of the arrival of Rear- April 1801.
Admiral Blanket at Suez, from the East-Indies, with about six hundred troops; and that he would be followed by more, who had been obliged to put into the ports of the Red Sea, from the wind setting against them, and were then actually at Cossire.

A French ship laden with arms, ammunition, and provisions for Monday 27.
the French army, made a bold attempt to pass through the British cruizers; which, with the assistance of a westerly wind, she effected, but was afterwards dashed on a rock to the westward of Alexandria, when she soon went to pieces, and every soul on board perished.

EXTRACT FROM GENERAL ORDERS,

Dated Head-Quarters, Rosetta, April 30, 1801.

“ Major-General Craddock will be pleased to take the command Thursday 30.
of the troops, and a general superintendence of the camp, and to whom all reports are to be continued to be made.

“ Lieutenant-Colonel Montresor, of the 18th regiment, is appointed Commandant of Rosetta.”

CAMP ORDERS.

“ In order that the troops may be ready to march at the shortest notice, all the heavy and superfluous baggage of the regiments must

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be

April 1801. be sent to Rosetta, where a store is prepared by the quarter-master-general to receive it.

“ The parade will be every morning at half past four o'clock, when the men will remain under arms till five; and at six in the evening, when they will not be dismissed till the retreat is beat. It is particularly expected that all officers and men off duty will attend the evening parade.”

MAY.
Friday 1. A messenger arrived from Osman Bey, the successor of Murad Bey, who commanded the Mamelukes in Upper Egypt, with an offer of his services to assist us in our operations against the French; a circumstance of great importance, from the superior discipline of that cavalry, their intimate acquaintance with the country, and their powerful influence among the inhabitants.

Saturday 2. A strong party of French cavalry entered a village about four miles in front of the British camp, and having plundered it, put the inhabitants, men, women, and children to the sword! A body of cavalry was immediately dispatched against them; but they had completed their scene of inhuman barbarity, and had escaped from the vengeance that was prepared to punish them.

Sunday 3. The 50th and 92d regiments arrived in the camp from the army
near

near Alexandria, who brought the information that the country was overflowing very fast, and that the inundation was sufficiently deep to carry gun-boats, of which circumstance the French had already availed themselves.

May 1801.

By general orders, dated Rosetta, the 92d regiment, on its arrival in camp, was attached to Major-General Craddock's brigade.

A detachment was ordered to cross the Nile, consisting of twelve hundred Albanians, one subaltern and twenty of the 12th dragoons, six pieces of artillery, and the 89th regiment under the command of Colonel Stewart. In crossing the river, the flat or raft, on which several of the Albanians were passing, unfortunately sunk, and several of them were drowned, and it was with great difficulty that the rest were persuaded to trust themselves to a passage over the water. The example, however, of the 89th regiment encouraged them, and no further danger was incurred. The detachment halted that night close to the village of Berimbal. Monday 4.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Dated Head-Quarters, Rosetta, May 4.

" The army will advance from its present position to-morrow morning at six o'clock, in two columns, composed of Turkish and British, the former in front of both.

" The

May 1801.

“ The first or right column, commanded by Major-General Craddock, will consist of Turkish cavalry, British cavalry, Turkish light infantry, Turkish regulars, British reserve, Major-General Craddock's brigade, two 3-pounders, two 6-pounders, and one royal howitzer.

“ This column is to move by the left along the new communication, so as to leave the mosque nearly half a mile to their right ; but as the route is not open much more than half way to Mental, it will be necessary that the whole of the regiments, pioneers, Turkish and British, should follow the advanced guard in order to make a road. If, on further inspection, it is judged that the route of this column will not admit of artillery, the guns attached to it, will follow in the rear of the second column.

“ When the first column has passed the mosque, the reserve and 11th light dragoons will move to the right along the sands, marching in a direct line with the Tower of Miruit.

“ The second column, commanded by Brigadier-General Doyle, will consist of thirty British dragoons, Turkish light infantry, Turkish regular regiments, Brigadier-General Doyle's brigade, two 6-pounders, and one royal howitzer.

“ This column, marching from the left, will proceed along the Nile, by a route which is prepared as far as Ufina ; but as considerable

able repairs may be necessary, the whole of the pioneers, Turkish and British, will follow immediately after the advanced guard for that purpose. May 1801.

“ Major Birch and Lieutenant Brownrigg, of the quarter-master general's staff, and an officer of engineers, will be attached to this column.

“ The whole line will be under arms to-morrow morning at the usual hour. The tents will be immediately struck, except one for each regiment, which will be left standing for the reception of the remainder of the camp equipage.

“ A serjeant and six convalescent men from each regiment, and a subaltern from each brigade, will be left in charge of the camp equipage, under the command of a captain from the line.

“ The mules with spare ammunition, and those for the conveyance of surgeons' chests, will march with their respective regiments; and the camels, attached to the artillery, will remain with the guns to which they are allotted. No let horses, bat horses, mules or baggage of any description, will be suffered in the columns.

“ As the front of the march will be unavoidably narrow, it will require the utmost care on the part of the commanding officers to prevent

May 1801. prevent the column lengthening out. An attention to this point is particularly enjoined.

“ The 92d regiment is attached to Brigadier-General Doyle's brigade until further orders.”

Tuesday 5. The British and Turkish forces, under the command of General Hutchinson, commenced their march from the camp of Hamed, towards Rahmanieh ; the gun-boats on the Nile keeping pace with the left of the line : they marched about eight miles, and encamped in front of the ruins of a village, which had been depopulated by the plague three years before. The only building remaining was a mosque, surrounded with catacombs, where the victims of that destructive disease had been interred.

This place was surrounded with beautiful fields of wheat, barley, and rice, which were wantonly laid waste by the Turks, with that cruel and useless spirit of ravage which marks their inconsiderate and inhuman conduct.

In the course of the evening, intelligence was received that the French had entrenched themselves in a very strong, commanding situation, about seven miles in our front, at a place called El Aft.

Colonel Stewart's detachment, on the east bank of the Nile,
marched

May 1801.

marched at five in the morning through a rich country, abounding in rice, sugar, wheat, barley, &c.; the light boats, under the command of Captain Corry, covering their right flank. They halted in front of Sindion, detaching, at the same time, two hundred Arnauts in front, to support, if necessary, the British piquets.

The troops continued to march about two miles in front of their last station. In the evening the piquets perceived the flashing of musquets at a considerable distance before them, but the wind blew so hard that the report could not be heard. An attack was accordingly expected from that quarter, but nothing happened. About two in the morning an heavy explosion of powder was heard, as if a tumbril, or some machine of that kind, had been blown up. Wednesd. 6.

The eastern detachment, under Colonel Stewart, continued its march at six in the morning; but a considerable delay was occasioned by the state of the roads, which were not sufficiently broad to admit the passage of the artillery: it became absolutely necessary, therefore, to obtain assistance from the Arabs for that purpose. Having passed through the town of Surafia, and three villages, the troops took their position between Sindion and Toua.

Information having been received that some French were in Toua, Colonel Stewart and Lord Blayney went forward to reconnoitre. On approaching the town, they met several Arabs returning, with
Q q great

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great triumph and exultation, with the heads of three Frenchmen who had been murdered in the place, and were the remainder of a small detachment that had escaped across the river to the French position near El-Aft. Here several boats had been sunk to prevent the passage of the English vessels up the river.

This reconnoitring expedition ended in a partial engagement, in which a French gun-boat of seven guns was blown up, several of the enemy killed, and twenty-six large gemes, or country boats, taken.

The following General Orders were this day issued from head quarters at the camp of El-Aft :

“ The British army will march to-morrow morning at six o'clock, from their present position, in two columns from the right.

“ The reserve, with the whole of the cavalry, excepting the detachment hereafter mentioned, will form the right column. Major-General Craddock's brigade, with a detachment of twenty dragoons, and Brigadier-General Doyle's brigade, will march along the road of Rahmanieh from the left.

“ One howitzer and one 6-pounder, from Major-General Craddock's brigade, will join the reserve. The guns attached to Brigadier-General Doyle's brigade will march with it. The light
8 12-pounders,

12-pounders will march with Major-General Craddock's brigade. May 1801.
Officers commanding, will be attentive that their brigades observe accurate forming distance. They will regulate themselves by the left.

“ The Turkish troops will march according to the disposition which is communicated to them by their own commander. Nearly the whole of their cavalry will be on the right.

“ The advanced guard will be composed of the regular troops, when the British cavalry and reserve will be in readiness to give their support in case of an attack.”

The French abandoned their position of El-Aft, after having burned Thursday 7.
their huts and destroyed their magazines, &c. before General Hutchinson could make the attack which he had meditated. Their force consisted of two thousand three hundred infantry, and about five or six hundred cavalry, with a strong body of artillery. This sudden movement of the enemy proceeded from their flank having been turned by the detached corps on the eastern bank. The French were attacked in their retreat by a body of Turkish cavalry, who brought the heads of those whom they had killed, with their usual triumph, to the Turkish camp. This circumstance accounts for the firing which the piquets saw on the preceding night.

May 1801.

In the course of the evening, the position which the enemy had thus hastily evacuated, was occupied by the British troops. The works, of considerable strength, reached across the plain about three miles from the Nile to the Lake Elko: and had the French determined to keep possession of it, it would have required no small exertion, and been attended with some loss to have driven them from it.

Friday 8. The army marched onwards, and encamped about three miles beyond their last position. We observed, with equal concern and indignation, several villages which had been entirely desolated by the French troops; and we saw also, with similar emotions, vast fields of corn where the grain was shedding, as the inhabitants had been driven by the terror of the sword from employing the reaping hook.

Colonel Stewart's detachment halted this day at Sarifia, which place it had reached the preceding night. A strong corps of Turkish cavalry had also arrived at Fouah, and now crossed the river to join the Captain Pacha.

Saturday 9. The army proceeded towards Rahmanieh, and about noon arrived within three miles of that place. It then halted for some time, in order to have an opportunity of reconnoitring the enemy, and to wait the arrival of the gun-boats up the Nile, as, from an unfavourable wind, they had not been able to keep up with our lines.

About

About one, however, they came up with us, and immediately commenced an attack on the enemy's gun-boats and batteries on the river. At the same time, the 26th regiment of dragoons was ordered to take possession of the bank of a canal that flanked the Fort of Rahmanieh: the four flank companies of the 40th were also ordered with them to cover their guns. This canal had been cut by the Turks to convey water to Alexandria during the overflow of the Nile. The detachment had not advanced more than half way over the plain, when the enemy opened several field pieces and howitzers, which killed and wounded some of the cavalry, who were immediately ordered back. At about three in the afternoon, however, the cavalry was again sent forward, with the whole reserve to cover them, when the enemy again opened their guns on them, but with little or no effect: they soon, therefore, reached the bank of the canal, where a considerable body of French cavalry was posted. We immediately began a smart fire of small arms on them, from which they very hastily retreated. Their batteries and gun-boats being silenced by this operation, the enemy were driven into the fort, and immediately passed out of it on the opposite side. In the night they totally abandoned it, leaving only a garrison of about an hundred and ten men, commanded by a chief of brigade, the greater part of which were in a wounded state, and appear to have been left for no other purpose but with the hope to amuse and delay the British army during the following day.

Colonel

May 1801.

Colonel Stewart's corps, on the eastern bank, marched at four this morning, having sent the 89th regiment with cavalry and artillery two miles in front of the Albanians, to cause a diversion by attacking the enemy at Desory, while General Hutchinson made his attack at Rahmanieh.

At half past five they saw a piquet of the enemy on the opposite bank, consisting of thirty-nine cavalry; and some officers soon after arrived, who appeared to reconnoitre our force: a failure of the wind had unfortunately prevented the gun-boats from advancing with the rapidity which had been expected. Colonel Stewart, Lord Blayney, and Captain Adye now went on a reconnoitring party, accompanied by the Sheik of Desory, who had collected a considerable body of Arabs. At this time a detachment of French cavalry and infantry was sent across the river, accompanied by some light artillery, which obliged the English detachment to take a position in order to wait the co-operation of the gun-boats and the army under General Hutchinson. The Albanians arriving shortly after, went towards the village of Desory, and a brisk but ineffectual fire of musquetry was kept up between them and the French, which served, however, to keep the latter in check. It happened, indeed, most unfortunately, that this was the only day for some time without a surge up the river, a circumstance which occasioned a considerable degree of delay. About eight o'clock, however, the light gun-boats arrived, and a fire commenced from
the

the batteries in front of the enemy's position. A boat, under the command of a lieutenant, was sunk, the lieutenant himself was killed, and several men killed and wounded, by a fire from a masked battery of four guns. The 89th regiment, under the command of Lord Blayney, advanced with two howitzers, two 6-pounders, and two twelve ditto, and attacked the body of French troops which had crossed the river. In this operation they sustained an heavy fire from a gun-boat and a battery of four guns; but soon drove the enemy to the opposite bank, while their boats were intercepted in the attempt to escape. The detachment now gained the rear of the enemy's position, and were close to two heavy batteries commanding the entrance up the harbour of Rahmanieh. A partial, though occasionally an heavy fire of musquetry and artillery continued the remaining part of the day.

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In the course of this engagement one gun-boat was sunk, another was taken, and seventy-three large and loaded gerges were forced back into the harbour, but were taken the following morning.

In the night Captain Corry proceeded with the light boats; and about eleven a warm fire of musquetry commenced with the 89th regiment and the French; the object of the latter being to cover a gun-boat that was attempting to escape. She was, however, forced to come in shore, and was taken possession of by the English troops.

As

May 1801.

Sunday 10.

As soon as it was day-light an officer came from the fort with a flag of truce, on whom the Turks instantly commenced a fire of musquetry, whose continuance was prevented by the interposition of Lord Blayney. The flag was immediately sent by Colonel Stewart, with an officer, to General Hutchinson, when the terms of evacuation were settled, according to the following articles :

- I. The officers shall wear their swords, and retain their effects.
- II. The garrison shall be sent back to France, and shall not serve against the King of England, nor against his Allies, until exchanged conformably to the cartel between the two nations.
- III. The wounded are placed under the protection of British humanity.

Thus the enemy escaped unmolested from General Hutchinson's army, leaving the fort, with its small garrison, to the advantages of a capitulation. The plague had prevailed in the town some time before, and had not yet totally subsided.

The French, indeed, at first appeared to have entertained the design of maintaining the position of Rahmanieh ; but it is probable, as the detachment commanded by Colonel Stewart had got into their rear, and taken the fort in reverse, influenced them to change their resolution and to retire.

At an early hour in the morning a continual firing of artillery was for some time heard up the river: it afterwards proved to have proceeded from the boats under Captain Corry, in a very successful attack which he made on the enemy's cavalry, in their retreat from Rahmanieh. May 1801.

The following General Orders were issued :

“ The army will be in readiness to march to-morrow morning at five o'clock. The British will march from the right in the general order of encampment, as soon as the Ottoman troops, who lead, have left the route clear for them.

“ The six pounders and howitzers will march with the brigades to which they are attached.

“ The two 12-pounders will follow Major-General Craddock's brigade.

“ Major Birch, Assistant Quarter-Master General, will lead the column.”

An aid-de-camp of the French General Menou, with fifty cavalry, who had advanced on their march from Alexandria, to within two miles of Rahmanieh, without knowing that the latter place had

R R

been


May 1801. been taken; on discovering that event, attempted to retreat, but were surrounded by a body of the Arabs, who kept a continual fire of small arms upon them, till the arrival of our cavalry. Nineteen of them were already killed, and the rest surrendered.

The heads of the unfortunate Frenchmen, who fell on this occasion, were treated with the usual ceremony, of being carried with a triumphant insolence to the Turkish camp, where they were laid before the tent of the Captain Pacha; here they were insulted by every Turk that passed, who kicked them, spit upon them, or made a stroke of a sabre at them, according as their caprice might suggest the insult: nor did they suffer these acts of hatred and revenge to be unaccompanied with looks, language, and expressions peculiarly suited to them.

But whatever sensations of abhorrence may be produced by actions which have been just described, we should, at the same time, consider the spirit so naturally awakened by the barbarous, pillaging, blood-thirsty, and atrocious conduct of the French, to the unoffending natives; who would not only be impelled to revenge by a sense of their own sufferings, but look also for a vindictive support from the scimetars of their Mahometan brethren of the Turkish army.

The army proceeded a short distance beyond Rahmanieh, and the Eastern corps halted near Mahallet Dye.

General Orders of the day :

May 1801.


“ The army march to-morrow morning at five o'clock, in the same order as to-day ; namely, cavalry, reserve, Major-General Craddock's and Brigadier-General Doyle's brigades. The guns will move with the brigades to whom they are attached.

“ Major-General Hutchinson being desirous that the troops should be kept under arms as little as possible, directs that the warning drum shall not be beat till half past four o'clock, and the long roll at five, when the troops will immediately march off.

“ The troops are positively forbidden to bathe in the heat of the day ; and Commanding Officers will be responsible, that a practice, so prejudicial to the health of the men, shall be discontinued.

“ Major-General Hutchinson regrets exceedingly, that the soldiers have been deprived of their usual allowance of rum. It has been occasioned by a circumstance, which no human prudence could have guarded against. However, he assures them, that in future they shall be supplied as regularly as possible, if not with rum, with the best spirits that can be obtained in the country.”

CHAPTER IX.

The British and Turkish Forces proceed towards Cairo—General Orders—A valuable Convoy of Boats taken on the Nile—Contest between a British Regiment and the Turks on the Occasion—An Account that the French Troops, which evacuated Rahmanieh, had reached Cairo—Appearance of the Country—A considerable Convoy from Alexandria to Cairo attacked and taken—The Fort of Lesbia evacuated—The Garrison, with that of Burlos, embark in five Vessels, four of which are taken—An Account received of the Grand Vizier's Defeat of the French—The Capture of several Forts by the Turks—General Hutchinson visits the Grand Vizier at his Camp—On his Return he continues his March—Is joined by the Mamelukes—Encamps before Gizah—The French propose a Negotiation for evacuating Cairo—Conferences thereupon—They agree to surrender it—Terms of the Convention—General Orders—French Officers visit the British Camp, to dispose of their Horses, Women, &c.—General Craddock inspects the Reserve, at the Desire of the French Hostages.

THE enemy having retreated towards Cairo, General Hutchinson adopted the necessary measure of following them, in order to cover the army of the Grand Vizier, and to secure a junction with the reinforcement that was at this time expected, and a part of which had already arrived on the coast of the Red Sea from India.

May 1801.

Tuesday 12.

The

May 1801.

The main army shifted ground, continuing to proceed to the westward of Rahmanieh; while the Eastern detachment marched onwards, and halted behind the Canal of Ferastah, which is navigable, at all seasons; from the Rosetta to the Damietta branch of the river.

Wednesd. 13.

This day the army halted on both sides of the river, and the Commander in Chief issued the following General Orders :

“ No part of the baggage will be suffered in the line of march, but will proceed on the left flanks of the respective regiments. Tents will be struck at three o'clock, and will be sent, together with the sick unable to march, on board the Brigade Germes. If the parties employed on the above duty cannot join their regiment previous to marching, they will come up with the rear guard.

“ A rear guard of two companies from Major-General Craddock's brigade, and ten dragoons from the 12th regiment, will remain till five o'clock; they will assemble at head quarters, and will take care to bring up with them all descriptions of persons whatever belonging to the army.

“ Officers will be careful to explain to the soldiers, and all persons belonging to the army, the danger which they incur of being robbed and plundered by the Arabs, if they stray from, or remain behind their regiments.

“ When-

“ Whenever the army halts in the neighbourhood of any villages, the regiments nearest to them are immediately to send guards, to prevent the soldiers from entering them.”

May 1801.

The army marched along the banks of the Nile, about the distance of fourteen miles; and, in the course of its progress, fell in with a very valuable convoy of Germes on the Nile, consisting of sixteen in number, and escorted by two hundred men: they had descended from Cairo, down the Canal of Menouff, which joins the Damietta and Rosetta branches of the river, so that it was impossible for them to have been acquainted of the retreat of the French forces from Rahmanieh. The convoy was very valuable, and contained all kinds of clothing, with wine, spirits, &c. and about five thousand pounds in money. There were also among the spoil, several heavy pieces of artillery, some of which were intended for the defence of Alexandria. The capture, therefore, was not only very valuable in itself, but must have also been severely felt by the enemy.

Thursday 14.

The whole of this day's march was through a finely cultivated country, where the husbandman, being terrified by the din of arms, had left the corn to shed its ears on the ground.

The detachment on the Eastern bank of the river having passed a bridge of pontoons, were quickened in their march by a fire of musquetry

May 1801.

musquetry and artillery in their front, occasioned by the advanced guard falling in with the French boats, which has been already mentioned: on their approach they perceived them to be in a desperate state, and forced across the river.

A violent contest took place on this occasion, between the Turks and a detachment of the 89th regiment; the latter exerting themselves, in obedience to orders, in protecting the capture which they had made; while the former could not be persuaded that they acted with any other view, than that of securing it for themselves: they appeared, however, to be somewhat pacified, when Lord Blayney informed the Commandant of the Turks, that they might take the money chest, provided they divided it in equal shares with the English, which proposition he made them understand by the customary sign of drawing a line across the hand, as if to cut it in two. The Turks accordingly carried off a trunk with an insulting kind of triumph, and guarded it with their naked scimitars. The Commandant then ordered a ring to be made round the prize, which being with some difficulty accomplished, the chest was at length opened, when it was found to contain nothing but some old clothes and camp furniture of little value. The violence and threats of the Turks then rose to an height which threatened some danger, and their outcry was particularly directed against Lord Blayney, whom they considered as having a design to deprive them of the share which they claimed of the plunder.

We

We pursued our march about the distance of nine miles, through the same kind of cultivated country which we had already passed ; but the corn had been cut, and the natives occupied their villages.

May 1801.

Friday 15.

In the evening we learned, from some deserters, that the French army, under General La Grange, after evacuating Rahmanieh, had proceeded, with all possible expedition, through the desert to Grand Cairo. This march had indeed been pursued with such extraordinary rapidity, that the army arrived on the 13th at its destination.

We proceeded about twelve miles, through a country equally fertile and undisturbed, as that which we had passed on the preceding day.

Saturday 16.

We continued our march about ten miles, through a field covered with corn ; but as the French did not take this route, the inhabitants remained undisturbed, and were busily engaged in collecting their harvest, which appeared to be abundant on both sides of the river ; nor were they interrupted in their peaceful labours by the English army.

Sunday 17.

We encamped at a place called Alkham ; when information was received from the Arabs, that a considerable body of French, coming from Alexandria, in their way to Cairo, were advancing towards the Nile, near the place where the boats of the Captain Pacha then lay.

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The

May 1801. The cavalry, therefore, were immediately ordered out, with two pieces of cannon, under the command of Brigadier-General Doyle, supported by his brigade of infantry.

Colonel Cavalier, who commanded the French convoy, no sooner perceived the boats of the Captain Pacha, than he naturally thought our army was not at any great distance, and accordingly retired into the desert, where the British troops proceeded to follow him. After they had got about ten miles in the desert, the enemy was seen marching in an hollow square, and a body of Arabs annoying them with musketry on each face of it. When we arrived within a mile of them, the infantry was ordered to halt; and the cavalry under General Doyle went forwards to summon them to surrender, on condition that their private property should be respected, and that they should be sent to France by the first convenient opportunity. With these terms they complied, and immediately laid down their arms. This escort consisted of thirty officers; six hundred and five men, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, five hundred and fifty camels, two hundred horses, and a large portion of the dromedary corps, with one 5 pounder. The prisoners taken were all Frenchmen, and of the best troops which the French had in Egypt.

About seven in the evening we returned to the camp, with our prisoners, and a long cavalcade of camels and dromedaries, which gave our procession the air of Asiatic victory.

On

On the same day the enemy retired from the Fort of Lesbia, on May 1801
the Damietta Branch, and formed a junction with about two hundred men which they had at Burlos: this fort they also evacuated, and embarked in five small vessels, four of which were taken and carried into Aboukir Bay.

The garrisons of the two forts consisted of about seven hundred men; so that since the 9th, near sixteen hundred prisoners had been taken, which occasioned a very sensible diminution of the enemy's force in this country.

The French prisoners were now consigned to the boats which had Tuesday 10.
been fitted up for them; and soon after they sailed for Rosetta, in order to be embarked on board the fleet, preparatory to their being sent to France.

This day was distinguished by an express from Major Holloway, attached to the Grand Vizier's army, with the agreeable intelligence that his Highness had defeated the French about twenty miles to the eastward of Cairo.

In the evening, an hundred dismounted men of the 12th dragoons arrived in the camp from Rosetta, to receive the horses lately taken from the enemy.

May 1801. The following General Orders were this day given out to the
Wednesd. 20. army :

Copy of a letter from Major Holloway of the royal engineers, to General Hutchinson, commanding the British army on its march to Cairo.

“ Major-General Hutchinson feels the most lively pleasure in communicating to the army, and congratulating them on the success obtained over the enemy by our allies :

“ *Field of Battle, Elkala, May 16, 1801.*

“ SIR,

“ I have the infinite satisfaction to inform your Excellency, that his Highness the Grand Vizier has obtained a complete victory over the French army, that had advanced against him from Cairo. They were met in the night on their march to surprise our allies, and kept in check till day-light, when they were attacked in a grove of date-trees, and, after eight hours fighting, were beat in every direction, and made a very imperfect retreat.

“ The enemy consisted of seven thousand men, including Copts and Greeks; but the number of their killed and wounded has not yet been ascertained; I can however assure you, that very few of the
Turks

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

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Turks are killed or wounded: I will write you more fully when May 1801,
I can learn the particulars of this engagement.

Signed, "G. HOLLOWAY, Major-Commandant."

"To Major-General Hutchinson, &c. &c."

The particulars were afterwards communicated in the following account of this important victory:—

On the 7th of May, his Highness the Grand Vizier left Salahich; and on the succeeding day arrived at Balbeis, where the advanced corps of his army had been already encamped.

On the 15th, his Highness received intelligence that the enemy, at an early hour of that morning, had marched a considerable force from Cairo on the road towards Balbeis, where his Highness was then encamped. In the evening a further confirmation of this intelligence was brought, when the enemy was in full march. The Vizier, therefore, as soon as it was dark, ordered Tahir Pacha, with three thousand cavalry and three light field-pieces to advance to meet them, and, if a favourable opportunity offered during the obscurity of the night, to attack, if not to impede their progress as much as possible.

About ten at night they met, at the distance of three miles from
the

May 1801. the camp, when each army halted and lay on their arms until eight in the morning, at which time Tahir Pacha commenced an attack; and in a short time after he was re-inforced by fifteen hundred cavalry.

It was now discovered, that the French had come forward with about fourteen pieces of artillery, 8 pounders, six hundred cavalry, and four thousand infantry. His Highness, therefore, ordered Méhémméd Pacha to move forward with five thousand men, consisting of cavalry and Albanian infantry, and nine light field pieces. His Highness afterwards advanced himself and took the command, which was attended with the happiest effect.

The enemy moved into a wood of date-trees, where they were attacked by the cavalry and infantry with great spirit for three hours, when the enemy retired from the wood, taking position on the plain, their left to the wood, and forming an hollow square on the right. The Albanian infantry then advanced to the edge of the wood, and, in this situation, galled them considerably; and upon the Turkish cavalry threatening their right, they changed position, and attempted to gain the heights, in which they were prevented by a rapid movement of the cavalry, who advanced to the summit. In this manœuvre they were annoyed by two guns which were brought forward on the occasion.

At

At this time the French commenced a decided attack, but were driven beyond El Hanka, a distance not less than seven miles from the place of the first operations; and the Grand Vizier gave orders to desist from the pursuit. May 1807.

The Turks had about thirty killed and eighty wounded; the loss sustained by the French did not exceed fifty; their wounded could not be ascertained, as they carried them off the field.

The Turkish force engaged, on this occasion, did not at any time exceed nine thousand men; and the loss sustained on either side, considering the time they were engaged, was comparatively small; but the advantage gained by the Grand Vizier was of great importance.—

At the same time intelligence was received of the capture of Fort Lesbia at Damietta, and two smaller forts depending on it, by a detachment of the Grand Vizier's army.

On the 6th instant, his Highness had ordered Ibrahim Pacha, with two thousand five hundred men and five pieces of artillery to march immediately for that purpose; and it appears by that officer's report to the Vizier, that every arrangement had been made for the attack of Fort Lesbia, on the morning of the 14th, when it was discovered that the fort was evacuated and the garrison had retired.

May 1801.

Thus the Turks, who had hitherto given but little comparative assistance to the common cause against the French invaders of Egypt, and had not acted either with the zeal or courage which their own interest as well as their engagement appeared to demand, seem on a sudden to have been stimulated, by the bravery, conduct, and successes of the British army, to engage in serious and active operations against the common enemy.

At the same time justice requires it to be mentioned, that the distribution of the Turkish army and order of its march, which produced this unexpected success over the French, must be attributed to the military science of Major Holloway, and the conduct of the other British officers attached to the force commanded by the Vizier.

The advanced body of cavalry under Tahir Pacha, was accompanied by Captain Leake, and the Albanian infantry by Captain Lacey, each receiving their orders from Major Holloway, who remained near the person of the Vizier.

It was by this well-combined disposition, as expressed in the warm language of Lord Elgin, by the endeavours which were strenuously exercised to prevail upon this corps to disembarass themselves of their superfluous attendants, and by giving confidence to the Turks in their own means, that Major Holloway was enabled to bring

these troops to keep in check, for so long a time, a French army of May 1801.
 superior force, to counteract its plans, to attack it, to seize every
 advantage of its positions and of ground, and, after manœuvring
 with science during seven hours, to repulse it with loss, and gain a
 complete victory.

Though the progress of the British army, since the predominating
 victory of the 21st of March, had not been attended with any very
 rapid or brilliant successes, much solid advantage had been obtained
 by the progressive operations of General Hutchinson. The enemy's
 force had been considerably diminished, important captures had been
 made, a very commanding junction of the natives had been produced,
 and every measure which he pursued seemed to be preparatory to
 the most beneficial consequences.

The naval officers and sailors serving with the army on the Nile Thursday 21.
 were ordered to join their respective ships in consequence of a
 French fleet being off the coast; but in the course of the evening
 that order was countermanded.

General Hutchinson left the camp to pay a visit to the Grand Friday 22.
 Vizier, and the army remained in its position till his return on the
 21st inst.

The army marched forward, and halted on the two succeeding JUNE.
Monday 1.
T T days.

June 1801. days. It then proceeded gradually onwards until the seventh, when it came in sight of the Pyramids, at about the distance of sixteen miles.

Monday 8. We marched up the banks of the Nile, till we came in front of the Pyramids, at the distance of about seven miles. Here the army halted till the thirteenth of this month.

Sunday 14. We proceeded along the banks of the Nile about six miles, and appeared to be at the same distance from the Pyramids as on the preceding day. We were now within a few miles of Grand Cairo.

Tuesday 16. We shifted ground to within four miles of Cairo; and immediately began to erect a bridge of boats across the Nile, to open a communication between the British army and that of the Grand Vizier. This morning the 28th and 42d regiments joined us from Alexandria, after a march of fourteen days. We halted in this position till the 20th, when the bridge was finished. Here we were joined by Osman Bey and his body of Mamelukes.

Sunday 21. Having left a guard to protect the bridge, the army proceeded on the banks of the river, and encamped before the walls of Gizah, in order to besiege that place, which is on the opposite side of the river to Cairo. It is a fortress of little or no strength; but as it covered a bridge of communication which the French had over the river, it was an essential object to obtain the possession of it. When

that place was carried, it was the design of General Hutchinson to cross the river, and, having formed a junction with the Grand Vizier, who was encamped at a small distance from Cairo, to commence an attack on that city.

June 1801.


Great delays, however, had been occasioned in undertaking these operations, from the low state of the river, and particularly from the bar of the Nile at Rosetta, which is frequently impassable for several days together, so that the march of the army was greatly retarded. The difficulty of obtaining the necessary supplies for the army was very great, and the obstacles which were encountered in bringing the heavy artillery up the river, a distance of an hundred and sixty miles, could not have been surmounted but by the laborious and unparalleled exertions of the naval officers and seamen employed in that service.

These operations, however, which would have prolonged the campaign, and added to its horrors, were happily suspended by the proposal on the part of the enemy for a suspension of arms; that a negotiation might be entered into for the evacuation of Cairo and the forts belonging to it.

Monday 22.

It was therefore agreed that proper officers should be appointed from both armies to proceed on these important arrangements, and

T T 2

they

June 1801.

they accordingly met half way between our lines and the fort, with a guard of an equal number of soldiers for either party.

These conferences, which were conducted by Brigadier-General Hope, lasted several days, when it was agreed that the town and forts should be surrendered on the following conditions, and hostages were mutually exchanged for that purpose :

TRANSLATION.

CONVENTION for the Evacuation of Egypt by the French and Auxilliary Troops under the Command of the General of Division Belliard; concluded between Brigadier-General Hope, on the Part of the Commander in Chief of the British Army in Egypt, Osman Bey, on the Part of his Highness the Grand Vizier, and Isaac Bey, on the Part of his Highness the Capitan Pacha; the Citizens Dangelot, General of Brigade, Morand, General of Brigade, and Tarayre, Chief of Brigade, on the Part of the General of Division Belliard, commanding a Body of French and Auxiliary Troops. The Commissioners above-named having met and conferred, after the Exchange of their respective Powers, have agreed upon the following Articles :

ART. I. The French forces, of every description, and the auxiliary troops under the command of the General of Division Belliard, shall

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

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shall evacuate the city of Cairo, the citadel, the forts of Boulac, Gizah, and all that part of Egypt which they now occupy.

June 1801.

II. The French and auxiliary troops shall retire by land to Rosetta, proceeding by the left bank of the Nile, with their arms, baggage, field-artillery, and ammunition, to be there embarked and conveyed to the French ports of the Mediterranean, with their arms, artillery, baggage, and effects, at the expence of the allied powers. The embarkation of the said French and auxiliary troops shall take place as soon as possible, but at the latest within fifty days from the date of the ratification of the present convention. It is also agreed, that the said troops shall be conveyed to the French ports above-mentioned, by the most direct and expeditious route.

III. From the date of the signature, and the ratification of the present convention, hostilities shall cease on both sides. The fort of Sulkoski, and the gate of the Pyramids, of the town of Gizah, shall be delivered up to the allied army. The line of advanced posts of the armies respectively shall be fixed by commissioners named for this purpose, and the most positive orders shall be given that these shall not be encroached upon, in order to avoid all disputes; and if any shall arise, they are to be determined in an amicable manner.

IV. Twelve days after the ratification of the present convention, the city of Cairo, the citadel, the forts, and the town of Boulac, shall

June 1801.

shall be evacuated by the French and auxiliary troops, who will retire to Ibrahaim Bey, the Isle of Rhoda and its dependencies, the Fort of Foueroy and Gizah, from whence they shall depart as soon as possible, and at the latest in five days to proceed to the points of embarkation. The generals commanding the British and Ottoman armies consequently engage, that means shall be furnished, at their charge, for conveying the French and auxiliary troops as soon as possible from Gizah.

V. The march and encampment of the French and auxiliary troops shall be regulated by the generals of the respective armies, or by officers named by each party; but it is clearly understood, that, according to this article, the days of march and of encampment shall be fixed by the generals of the combined armies, and consequently the said French and auxiliary troops shall be accompanied on their march by English and Turkish commissaries, instructed to furnish the necessary provisions during the continuance of their route.

VI. The baggage, ammunition, and other articles transported by water, shall be escorted by French detachments, and by armed boats belonging to the allied powers.

VII. The French and auxiliary troops shall be subsisted, from the period of their departure from Gizah, to the time of their embarkation, conformably to the regulations of the French army; and from
the

the day of their embarkation to that of their landing in France, agreeably to the naval regulations of England, June 1801.

VIII. The military and naval commanders of the British and Turkish forces shall provide vessels for conveying to the French ports of the Mediterranean the French and auxiliary troops, as well as all French and other persons employed in the service of the army. Every thing relative to this point, as well as in regard to subsistence, shall be regulated by commissaries named for this purpose by the General of Division Belliard, and by the naval and military Commanders in Chief of the allied forces, as soon as the present convention shall be ratified. These commissaries shall proceed to Rosetta or to Aboukir, in order to make every necessary preparation for the embarkation.

IX. The allied powers shall provide four vessels, (or more if possible,) fitted for the conveyance of horses, water-casks, and forage sufficient for the voyage.

X. The French and auxiliary troops will be provided by the allied powers with a sufficient convoy for their safe return to France. After the embarkation of the French troops, the allied powers pledge themselves, that to the period of their arrival on the continent of the French Republic, they shall not be in the least molested; and on his part, the General of Division Belliard, and the troops under

June 1801. under his command, engage that no act of hostility shall be by them committed, during the said period, against the fleet or territories of his Britannic Majesty, of the Sublime Porte, or of their allies. The vessels employed in conveying and escorting the said troops, or other French subjects, shall not touch at any other than a French port, except in cases of absolute necessity. The commanders of the British, Ottoman, and French troops enter reciprocally into the like engagements, during the period that the French troops remain in Egypt, from the ratification of the present convention to the moment of their embarkation. The General of Division Belliard, commanding the French and auxiliary troops, on the part of his government, engages that the vessels employed for their conveyance and protection, shall not be detained in the French ports after the disembarkation of the troops; and that their commanders shall be at liberty to purchase, at their own expence, the provisions which may be necessary for enabling them to return. General Belliard also engages, on the part of his government, that the said vessels shall not be molested on their return to the ports of the allied powers, provided they do not attempt, or are made subservient to, any military operation.

XI. All the administrations, the members of the commission of arts and sciences, and in short every person attached to the French army, shall enjoy the same advantages as the military. All the members of the said administration, and of the commission of arts and

and sciences, shall also carry with them, not only all the papers relative to their mission, but also their private papers, as well as all other articles which have reference thereto. June 1801.

XII. All the inhabitants of Egypt, of whatever nation they may be, who wish to follow the French troops, shall be at liberty so to do; nor shall their families, after their departure, be molested, or their goods confiscated.

XIII. No inhabitant of Egypt, of whatever religion, who may wish to follow the French troops, shall suffer either in person or property, on account of the connection he may have entered into with the French during their continuance in Egypt, provided he conforms to the laws of the country.

XIV. The sick, who cannot bear removal, shall be placed in an hospital, and attended by French medical and other attendants until their recovery, when they shall be sent to France on the same conditions as the troops. The commanders of the allied armies engage to provide all the articles that may appear really necessary for this hospital; the advances to be made on this account shall be repaid by the French government.

XV. At the period when the towns and forts mentioned in the present convention shall be delivered up, commissaries shall be

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named

June 1801. named for receiving the ordnance, ammunition, magazines, papers, archives, plans, and other public effects, which the French shall leave in possession of the Allied Powers.

XVI. A vessel shall be provided as soon as possible by the naval commanders of the Allied Powers, in order to convey to Toulon an officer and a commissioner charged with the conveyance of the present convention to the French government.

XVII. Every difficulty or dispute that may arise respecting the execution of the present convention, shall be determined in an amicable manner by commissioners named on each part.

XVIII. Immediately after the ratification of the present convention, all the English or Ottoman prisoners at Cairo shall be set at liberty, and the Commanders in Chief of the Allied Powers shall in like manner release the French prisoners in their respective camps.

XIX. Officers of rank from the English army, from his Highness the Supreme Vizier, and from his Highness the Capitan Pacha, shall be exchanged for a like number of French officers of equal rank, to serve as hostages for the execution of the present treaty. As soon as the French troops shall be landed in the ports of France, the hostages shall be reciprocally released.

XX.

XX. The present convention shall be carried and communicated June 1801.
by a French officer to General Menou at Alexandria, and he shall
be at liberty to accept of it for the French and auxiliary forces (both
naval and military,) which may be with him at the above-men-
tioned place, provided his acceptance of it shall be notified to the
general commanding the English troops before Alexandria, within
ten days from the date of the communication being made to him.

XXI. The present convention shall be ratified by the Com-
manders in Chief of the respective armies within twenty-four hours
after the signature thereof.

Signed in quadruplicate, at the place of conference, between the
two armies, the 27th of June 1801, or of the siege of Saïffar,
1216, or the 8th Messidor, 9th year of the French Republic.

(Signed) J. HOPE, Brigadier-General,
OSMAN BEY,
ISAAC BEY,
DONZELOT, General de Brigade,
TARAYRE, Chief de Brigade.

Approved and ratified the present Convention at Cairo, the 9th
Messidor, 9th year of the French Republic.

(Signed) BELLARD, General de Division,

June 1801.

Additional and explanatory Note of the Convention of the 8th Messidor, 27th June 1801, and 16th of the Month of Saaf-fer, 1216.

ART. I. It is understood that the field artillery, which the corps of French and auxiliary troops, under the orders of the General of Division Belliard, carry away, on their retreat from Cairo, to be conveyed with them to France, is two field-pieces, of the calibre of twelve, to that of two per battalion, and one per squadron, with the carriages and ammunition belonging to them.

II. It is besides understood that the French troops, embarked on board ships of war, shall have, from the moment in which they shall be on board, their arms and ammunition deposited in places destined for that purpose, under the superintendance of the commander of the vessel, which arms and ammunition shall be given up to them at the moment of debarkation in France, conformably to the convention; and that the troops of the said corps of the army, which shall be embarked on board ships not armed for war, shall preserve, during their stay on board those ships, their arms, ammunition, and shall be under the police of their officers.

III. The wife, daughter, aid-de-camp, and all the effects of the General in Chief Menou, shall be sent from Cairo to Alexandria, in a vessel provided for that purpose by the Allied Powers.

IV.

IV. The wives of the officers, soldiers, and other Frenchmen of the garrison of Alexandria, and who are at Cairo now, shall proceed freely to Alexandria, and there shall be granted them, for that purpose, the necessary means of conveyance; and, in case they should not be received at Alexandria, they shall be conveyed to France with the corps of the army under General Belliard, or as soon as possible, and shall enjoy all the advantages of the said convention. June 1801.

V. The Frenchwomen, who belong as well to the corps of troops under General Belliard, as to the persons employed, and other Frenchmen in the suite of the said corps, shall be embarked with their husbands, and shall have the rations of provision, and other advantages stipulated in the convention, according to the maritime regulations of England.

VI. The baggage and effects belonging to the corps, or to private persons of the garrison of Alexandria, if there be any at Cairo, shall be conveyed and deposited at Rosetta, or embarked if it be possible.

VII. The Director-General and Accountant of the Public Revenues shall go to Alexandria, or send one of his deputies, and he shall have all possible facilities for that purpose.

VIII.

June 1861.

VIII. If, among the hostages given and received by the generals commanding the respective armies and corps of troops, there be officers of the land army, it shall be free for the naval and military commanders of the three Powers to replace them by naval officers of the same rank, at the moment of embarkation.

IX. The horses and camels, which the corps of troops under General Belliard shall leave in Egypt, shall be delivered, at the moment of embarkation, to commissaries appointed by the generals of the Allied Powers to receive them.

X. It is understood that the fortifications shall be given up without any injury, and the mines pointed out to the officers of the engineers.

Done at the Camp of Conferences, between the two armies,
8 Messidor (27th June), and 16 Saaffer, 1216.

(Signed)

DONZELOT, General of Brigade,

MORAND, General of Brigade,

TARAYRE, Chief of Brigade,

JOHN HOPE, Brigadier-General,

OSMAN BEY,

ISAAC BEY.

(Signed)

BELLIARD, General of Division.

The British troops took possession of the gate of Gizah at five o'clock this evening, and also of the Fort Sulkoski, on the Cairo side of the river.

June 1901.

Sunday 28.

We cannot better conclude our account of this important event, than by adopting the language of General Hutchinson in his official letter on the subject.

“ This has been a long and arduous service. The troops, from the great heat of the weather, the difficulty of navigating the river, and the entire want of roads in the country, have suffered a considerable degree of fatigue; but both men and officers have submitted to it with the greatest patience, and have manifested a zeal for the honour of his Majesty's arms which is above all panegyric. The conduct of the soldiers has been orderly and exemplary; and a discipline has been preserved which would have done honour to any troops.”

The zeal and ability of Lieutenant-Colonel Anstruther is mentioned by General Hutchinson in terms of the highest eulogium. In the capacity of quarter-master-general, and under very difficult circumstances, he is acknowledged to have been highly instrumental in forwarding the public service.

The Major-Generals Craddock and Doyle, who were the officers
2 immediately

June 1801.

immediately employed under the orders of the Commander in Chief, received, in the same dispatch, a merited acknowledgment for the great assistance which he derived from them.

To the services of Captain Stevenson of the navy, with the Captains Morrison, Curry, and Hillyar, who were employed under him, a well earned tribute of praise is offered, as, without the constant and laborious and powerful exertions of those officers, it would have been impossible to have forwarded the essential supplies, and consequently the expedition could not have proceeded.

EXTRACT FROM GENERAL ORDERS.

“ Major-General Craddock is appointed to command the British troops serving with the combined army.

“ The Honourable Brigadier-General Hope is to command the brigade, late Major-General Craddock's.

“ Colonel Abercromby to act as deputy-adjutant-general to the army, till his Majesty's pleasure is known.”

Monday 29. Several French officers obtained leave to come into our camp, for the purpose of disposing of their horses and other articles which they could not take with them. Among other articles of what they called their private property, they brought some Grecian women
 3 whom

whom the fortune of war had transferred to them; and these un-
fortunate victims of their rapacity and their lust, they sold, without
reserve or remorse, as in a public market, to the Turks.

June 1801.

In order to gratify the curiosity of the French hostages with the
sight of those brave men who had been the victors of their invin-
cible legion, Major-General Craddock ordered out the whole of the
reserve; and their appearance, after such a fatiguing campaign, ex-
cited the warm admiration of the French officers.

Tuesday 30.

CHAPTER X.

General Observations—The Commander in Chief communicates the Thanks of the King to the Army of Egypt—General Orders—Votes of Thanks from both Houses of Parliament communicated to the Army—The Speeches of Lord Hobart and Mr. Addington on moving them in both Houses—The French Garrison of Grand Cairo conveyed, under the Direction of General Moore, to Aboukir—Their Embarkation and final Departure for France—Some Account of the Indian Army under General Baird—British Troops from Cairo return to Camp near Alexandria—Operations commence against that City—Major-General Coote detached on the Inundation to the Westward of Alexandria—Attacks with Effect the Castle of Marabout—Peculiar Gallantry of Colonel Spencer—Capitulation of the Castle of Marabout—Operations continued—Armistice proposed by General Menou—He agrees to capitulate—Terms of Capitulation—Abstract of the Valuation of Ordnance and Stores captured from the French by the British Army in Egypt—Official Papers—Some Account of the Administration of Egypt, &c.

THE surrender of Grand Cairo, without the dangers, losses, and miseries of a siege, must be considered as a very fortunate event; and a liberality of sentiment, in the terms granted to the French garrison, was well and wisely employed to prevent them. June 1801.

June 1801.

The advanced state of the season made it absolutely necessary to get immediate possession of Cairo ; it being impossible for our army to have remained so short a time as one month without giving up the idea of investing Alexandria, as the Nile would then have overflowed its banks, and rendered our march back impracticable for three months.

It could not, therefore, but be regarded as a very fortunate circumstance, that the French should think it necessary to propose a convention for the surrender of Cairo ; which, though in itself not capable of holding out even for many days against the force that was preparing to attack it, contained a body of French troops within it, which, in point of numbers, spirit and equipment, possessed the means of sanguinary, if not lasting, resistance.

The garrison consisted of fourteen thousand persons, twelve thousand of which bore arms. Of these, eight thousand were French, exclusive of a thousand who were sick, and a considerable number of invalids. The rest were Greeks and Copts.

This numerous body of troops, with all their camp equipage, arms, colours, and numerous train of field artillery, were now to be marched down to Aboukir, in order to be embarked for France. But as the Commander in Chief was under the necessity of remaining a short time at Cairo to complete some local arrangements with
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the Grand Vizier, and General Craddock being, at the same time, June 1801.
confined by illness, this difficult service was entrusted to the care
and conduct of Major-General Moore.

At this moment, when such an important and commanding acquisition was obtained by the British arms, when the possession of the capital of Egypt had added to the achievements of British prowess, the Commander in Chief received his Majesty's orders to communicate his royal thanks to the army for their conduct and services in Egypt; and they immediately appeared in the General Orders, dated Head Quarters, July 14, 1801.

JULY.
Tuesday 14.

"Lieutenant-General Hutchinson has received his Majesty's orders, which are hereto annexed, to return the generals, officers, and soldiers of the army, his thanks for the brilliant services that they have rendered to their country, and for the manner in which they have sustained and increased the honour of the British name; and the glory of the British arms.

"You landed in Egypt to attack an enemy your superior in numbers, provided with a formidable body of cavalry and artillery, accustomed to the climate, flushed with former victory, and animated by a consciousness of hard and well-earned renown.

"Notwithstanding these advantages, you have constantly seen a
warlike

July 1801.

warlike and a veteran enemy fly before you ; and you are now in possession of their capital. Such are the effects of good order, discipline, and obedience, without which courage itself must be unavailing, and success can be but momentary.

“ Such are the incitements which ought to induce you to persevere in a contest that has led you to victory, acquired you the applause of your Sovereign, the thanks of Parliament, and the gratitude of your Country.

“ To such authorities it would be superfluous for me to add my testimony : but be assured that your services and conduct have made the deepest impression on my heart, and never can be eradicated from my memory.

“ During the course of this arduous undertaking, you have suffered some privations, which you have borne with the firmness of men and the spirit of soldiers. On such painful occasions no man has ever felt more forcibly than I have done ; but you yourselves must know, that they are the natural consequences and effects of war, which no human prudence could obviate. Every exertion has been made to diminish their extent and duration : but they have now ceased, and, I hope, are never likely to return.

“ Nothing now remains to terminate your glorious career, but the

the final expulsion of the French from Egypt; an event which your country anticipates; and a service which, to such troops as you, July 1801.
can neither be doubtful or difficult."

GENERAL ORDERS.

" Horse Guards, 16th May 1801.

" The recent events which have occurred in Egypt have induced his Majesty to lay his most gracious commands on his Royal Highness the Commander in Chief, to convey to the troops employed in that country his Majesty's highest approbation of their conduct; and, at the same time, his Majesty has deemed it expedient that these his gracious sentiments should be communicated to every part of his army, not doubting that all ranks will thereby be inspired with an honourable spirit of emulation, and an eager desire of distinguishing themselves in their country's service.

" Under the blessing of divine Providence, his Majesty ascribes the successes that have attended the exertions of his troops in Egypt, to that determined bravery which is inherent in Britons; but his Majesty desires it may be most solemnly and most forcibly impressed on the consideration of every part of the army, that it has been a strict observance of order, discipline, and military system, which has given its full energy to the native valour of the troops, and has enabled them proudly to assert that superiority of the national

July 1801.

tional military character, in situations uncommonly arduous, and under circumstances of peculiar difficulty.

“ The illustrious example of their Commander cannot fail to have made an indelible impression on the gallant troops at whose head, crowned with victory and glory, he terminated his honourable career ; and his Majesty trusts, that a due contemplation of the talents and virtues, which he uniformly displayed in the course of his valuable life, will for ever endear the memory of Sir Ralph Abercromby to the British army.

“ His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief, having thus obeyed his Majesty’s commands, cannot forbear to avail himself of this opportunity of recapitulating the leading features of a series of operations so honourable to the British arms.

“ The boldness of the approach to the coast of Aboukir, in defiance of a powerful and well-directed artillery ; the orderly formation upon the beach, under the heaviest fire of grape and musquetry ; the reception and repulse of the enemy’s cavalry and infantry ; the subsequent charge of our troops, which decided the victory, and established a footing on the shores of Egypt, are circumstances of glory never surpassed in the military annals of the world.

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"The advance of the army on the 14th of March towards Alexandria, presents the spectacle of a movement of infantry through an open country, who being attacked on their march, formed and repulsed the enemy; then advanced in line for three miles, engaged along their whole front, until they drove the enemy to seek his safety under the protection of his entrenched position. Such was the order and regularity of the advance.

"An attack, begun an hour before day light, could derive no advantage over the vigilance of an army ever ready to receive it. The enemy's most vigorous efforts were directed against the right and centre. Our infantry fought in the plain, greatly inferior in the number of their artillery, and unaided by cavalry.

"They relied upon their discipline and their courage; but the desperate attacks of a veteran cavalry, joined to those of a numerous infantry, which had vainly styled itself Invincible, were every where repulsed; and a conflict, the most severe, terminated in one of the most signal victories which have adorned the annals of the British nation.

"In bringing forward these details, the Commander in Chief does not call upon the army merely to admire, but to emulate such conduct. Every soldier, who feels for the honour of his country, while he exults in events so splendid and important in themselves,

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have.

July 1801.

have fresh motives for cherishing and enforcing the practice of discipline, and by uniting, in the greatest perfection, order and precision with activity and courage, will seek to uphold, and transmit undiminished to posterity, the glory and honour of the British arms. Nor is a less useful example to be derived from the conduct of the distinguished Commander who fell in the field.

“ His steady observance of discipline, his ever watchful attention to the health and wants of his troops, the persevering and unconquerable spirit which marked his military career, the splendour of his actions in the field, and the heroism of his death, are worthy the imitation of all who desire, like him, a life of honour, and a death of glory.

“ The prevalence of contrary winds having prevented the arrival of ships from England with money, the pay of the army has been in arrear; but that temporary inconvenience is now at an end, and every thing due shall be put in a course of payment, and discharged as soon as possible.”

GENERAL ORDERS CONTINUED.

“ The general will beat to-morrow morning at three o'clock, when the tents will be immediately struck, and all the baggage packed and loaded.

“ The

" The assembly will beat at four, and the army will march by companies from the left, as soon as the rear of the Turkish column has passed, in the following order : July 1801.

Cavalry, :
 Brigadier-General Doyle's brigade,
 Brigadier-General Hope's brigade,
 The reserve.

" The baggage, as soon as loaded, will proceed to the village of Inbabe, in rear of the left of the 2d line, where it will be assembled in order of brigades, under the inspection of an officer of the Quarter-Master-General's department.

" A rear guard of one squadron of cavalry, and two companies of infantry, will follow about a mile in rear of the British column.

" Colonel Spencer of the 40th regiment, during the indisposition of Brigadier-General Doyle, will take the command of his brigade."

GENERAL ORDERS.

" *Camp, July 15, 1801.*

" In the absence of the Commander in Chief, and Major-General Craddock, the direction of the march is left to Major-General Moore, to whom, till further orders, all reports will be made. Wednesd. 15.

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July 1801.

" The army will march in the following order from the right :

Brigadier-General Doyle's brigade,

The reserve,

Brigadier-General Hope's brigade,

The cavalry.

" The general will beat at half past three o'clock ; the assembly at half past four ; and the column will move precisely at five.

" The few following regulations are to be attended to during the march ; and Major-General Moore requests that the general officers, and officers commanding corps, will enforce a due observance of them, and hopes that a repetition of them will be unnecessary.

" On the beating of the general, the tents are to be struck, the baggage loaded and assembled at the place, and in the manner which will be specified in General Orders.

" The baggage will march on the beating of the assembly, under charge of a small guard from each regiment. During the present march, the baggage will proceed on the line of march, unless particularly ordered to the contrary.

" The piquets, which have been on the preceding night, will
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form the rear guard. The colonel of the day will order them to be drawn together on the beating of the assembly; and when the troops, and every thing belonging to them, are clear of the ground, they will move off, in general keeping within half a mile of the column. July 1801.

“ The field officer of the day will march with the rear guard, and on his arrival in the new camp will report to head quarters.

“ The colonel of the day will join his regiment as soon as he sees the piquets collected, as above directed.

“ The piquets for duty will form the advanced guard, and, on the beating of the assembly, will march to the rear of the leading regiment of the column.

“ On their arrival on the ground, the quarter-master-general will post the piquets. The camp colourmen, under the charge of a non-commissioned officer from each regiment, and a quarter-master from each brigade, will assemble at the head of the advanced guard, and remain on the ground marked for their respective regiments, until the arrival of the troops.

“ The general officers, and officers commanding regiments, will
be

July 1801. be particularly careful to prevent either officers or men from quitting their regiments.

“ When the army marches, the beating of the reveillée becomes unnecessary.”

Saturday 18. As a further reward for the gallant actions already achieved by the British army in Egypt, and an additional encouragement to a perseverance in their career of glory, the Commander in Chief communicated to them the votes of thanks which their meritorious conduct had received from both Houses of Parliament.

“ On the motion of the Right Honourable Henry Addington, his Majesty's Chancellor of the Exchequer in the House of Commons, Nov. 12, 1801, it was unanimously resolved, That the thanks of that House be given to Lieutenant-General Sir John Hely Hutchinson, Knight of the most honourable Order of the Bath, for the ability, zeal, and perseverance so eminently manifested by him in the command of the army serving in Egypt, by which the honour of the British Nation had been so signally upheld, and additional lustre reflected on the reputation of the British arms.

“ That the thanks of that House be given to Major-Generals Eyre Coote, John Francis Craddock, the Honourable George James Ludlow,

Ludlow, John Moore, Richard Earl of Cavan, David Baird, the Honourable Edward Finch, and to Brigadier-Generals John Stuart, the Honourable John Hope, John Doyle, John Blake, Hildebrand Oakes, and Robert Lawson, and the several officers of the army, for their gallant, meritorious, and distinguished services, under the command of Lieutenant General the Honourable Sir John Hely Hutchinson, Knight of the most honourable Order of the Bath, by which the honour of the British Nation has been so signally upheld, and additional lustre reflected on the reputation of the British arms.

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“ That the House doth highly approve of an acknowledgment of the zeal, discipline, and intrepidity uniformly displayed during the arduous and memorable operations of the army in Egypt, by the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, under the command of Lieutenant General the Honourable Sir John Hely Hutchinson, Knight of the most honourable Order of the Bath, and that the same be signified by the commanders of the several corps, who are desired to thank them for their exemplary and gallant behaviour.”

On the same day a similar motion was made by the Right Honourable Lord Hobart, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State in the House of Lords, and a similar vote of thanks was passed with the same spirit of unanimous approbation.

“ Lord Hobart rose to move the thanks of the House to Lieutenant

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nant General Sir John Hely Hutchinson, Knight of the Bath, for the gallant services rendered by him in the command of the army which had so eminently distinguished itself by the capture of Alexandria, and its previous successes in Egypt. His lordship said, the attention of every individual noble lord must have been so powerfully attracted, and his mind so strongly impressed, by the series of victories which had been obtained by the intrepidity and valour of our admirals and commanders by sea and land, from the glorious action of the Nile, the astonishing prowess manifested by Sir Sidney Smith and other officers at the siege of St. Jean d'Acre, and other important transactions, down to the period of the landing of the army under the late Sir Ralph Abercromby, with the two battles so bravely fought by that army on the 13th and 21st of March, and the subsequent achievements of the same forces under the command of Sir John Hely Hutchinson, that it must obviously be wholly unnecessary for him to attempt, by any thing he could say, to add to the impression. From all that their lordships had heard and read on the subject, they must be perfectly convinced of the extraordinary merit of those whose gallantry and judgment had enabled his Majesty's arms to be distinguished by a train of such truly brilliant exploits. Though it was unnecessary for him, therefore, to go into any detail upon these well-known facts, he could not suffer the opportunity to escape him, of calling their lordships attention to the merit of the Marquis Wellesley, whose foresight and wisdom had not only been manifested in regard to the most glorious achieve-

July 1801.

achievement of the war in India, but had led him to conceive that the most beneficial services might be rendered to his country, by his detaching five thousand of the troops who served at the siege of Seringapatam, under the command of the gallant General Baird, on that important service; and embarking them by the way of the Red Sea, to co-operate with our army in Egypt. His lordship said, sufficient praise could scarcely be given to the Marquis Wellesley, for his well-concerted plan of sending auxiliary support to our European army in that quarter; because it must be evident, that if the French had succeeded in their project of obtaining and keeping possession of Egypt, their views would have been next directed to India, which might, to say the least, have put our territories in that part of the globe to some hazard, inconvenience and danger. Having done ample justice to the governor-general of India, his lordship moved, in the customary form, "That the thanks of this House be given to the Hon. Lieutenant-General Sir John Hely Hutchinson, K. B. for the ability, zeal, and perseverance, so eminently manifested by him in the command of the army of Egypt, and by whose exertions the honour of the British name has been so signally upheld, and by which additional lustre has been shed on the British arms."

On the question being put,

"Lord Viscount Nelson rose, he said, to join his feeble praise

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with

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with that of the noble lord who had just sat down ; for sure he was, that the thanks of the House were never voted on a more worthy or meritorious occasion than that opened to the House by the noble secretary of state. In order to illustrate this, his lordship desired the noble lords to turn their attention to the magnitude of the project devised by the French Republic : in regard to their attempt against Egypt, their view had not only been to take possession of Egypt, but to extend their dominion in that part of the world to the shores of Constantinople ; and not to cease in their unbounded efforts of ambition and conquest until they rested in India, of which they promised themselves either to obtain possession in part or of the whole. In order to attain this mighty object, they had intended to found a college in Egypt ; for which purpose they had sent out many professors of the different branches of science and literature, accompanied by two hundred youths of about eight years of age, whom they meant to mix with an equal number of youths of the country, and breed up the whole of them from that early age in the principles of French Republicanism. The better to accomplish this, they had carefully laid aside every man who was not zealously attached to their favourite system and doctrines ; and the success they had experienced on their landing in Egypt led them to believe that, vast as their project was, it would nevertheless be likely to be accomplished. He had, his lordship said, had the good fortune to succeed in the battle of the Nile, and another officer of very distinguished merit (Lord Keith) had since had the good fortune also to obtain
another

July 1801.

another victory at sea, in that part of the Mediterranean. They both had received the thanks of the House for their success; and he was happy to know that it now becomes the due of the General, and those who, with so much gallantry and spirit, had served in his army, to receive the same honour. His lordship expatiated on the extraordinary and meritorious services of that army, and particularly instanced their victory over that part of the French, which, from their distinguished bravery in Italy, had acquired the title of the *Invincible* regiment. So confident was the French general of the unconquerable ardour and undaunted bravery of this part of his troops, that he had been heard to declare, that the loss and destruction of the French fleet at the Mouth of the Nile was of little or no consequence, considering that he had been reinforced by that powerful band of heroes; and yet, though the French army had repelled all the force that had been brought against them by the Turkish and native powers in Egypt, the moment a smaller number of British soldiers were opposed to them, they were conquered, and their invincible corps subdued. His lordship mentioned the superior number of the French, compared with the whole of the British troops on every occasion throughout the campaign in Egypt, and spoke of it as matter highly redounding to their glory. Having passed on the army a most liberal eulogium, his lordship sat down, declaring that the motion had his most cordial concurrence."

The march which had now commenced from Cairo towards

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Aboukir,

July 1801.

Aboukir, must appear to be of a very extraordinary nature, and to threaten almost insurmountable difficulties, when we consider the numerous troops that composed it ; with their native character, and their late relative situations to each other. They were composed of British, Turks and French, who, but a few days before, were in a state of the most determined and active hostility. That, in the progress of such a march, no disturbance should arise, no interruption or unpleasant circumstance should take place, and that the whole of this heterogeneous army should arrive at the place of its destination in a state of regularity and good order; must be in a great measure attributed to the unremitting vigilance and judicious conduct of Major-General Moore, to whose care this very important and difficult operation was entrusted.

August.
Sunday 2.

The first division of the French army under General Belliard, embarked at Aboukir on board the fleet on the 2d of August, and the embarkation was protracted, from the difficulty of getting forward the immense quantity of baggage which they brought with them from Cairo, till the 8th. The whole then proceeded by divisions ; each of which was composed of two ships of war and about fifteen transports.

Tuesday 4.

The *Braakel*, with the first division, sailed on the 4th.

Thursday 6.

The *Inflexible*, *Dolphin* and *Ulysses*, with the second, on the 6th.

Monday 10.

The *Experiment* and the *Pallas*, with the last, on the 10th.—

The

The whole of the divisions transporting between thirteen and four-
teen thousand individuals of all descriptions.

Aug. 1801.

The army under the command of Major-General Baird, which had sailed from India in order to co-operate with the British army in Egypt, had been very much delayed by contrary winds in the Red Sea, and did not reach Cosseir till the 8th of June.

On the 30th of the same month he marched with the main body of the army from Cosseir, but did not reach Keneh on the banks of the Nile till the 16th of July. His troops had surmounted a great variety of difficulties, and manifested a very extraordinary spirit of perseverance in passing the desert. Here he was joined by some part of his army that had preceded him.

On the 26th August he reached Grand Cairo; and on the 29th the whole of the Cosseir army, after having left some troops in Gizah, embarked on the Nile; part of it, consisting of the 86th regiment and some sepoy, being ordered to Damietta, and the rest destined to Rosetta.

Previous to their departure from Cairo, Major-General Baird issued the following address to the army under his command :

MORNING

Aug. 1801.

MORNING GENERAL ORDERS.

" Camp, Rhoda Island, Aug. 28, 1801.

" In communicating his Majesty's most gracious approval of the services of the army in Egypt, Major-General Baird has the satisfaction to know, that the troops under his command participate in his feelings, that they rejoice in the honour that their brothers in arms have so deservedly gained ; that they regret the loss of that great and good man the late Commander in Chief ; that they lament the unavoidable circumstances which prevented their joining in the glorious conflict ; and that they feel, with the fullest force, the advantages which must ever result from order, discipline, and military system.

" It becomes not troops from India, who, in every situation, have supported the national character of determined and disciplined valour, to envy the reputation which has followed the footsteps of the army of England, from the shores to the capital of Egypt ; but the Major-General is persuaded that they desire to emulate it.

" The war is not yet terminated, the enemy possess the only harbour and the strongest fortress in the country. Their services in the field are required in the execution of their duty. He has no hesitation in declaring that, under the guidance of that able officer the Commander in Chief, he has the fullest reliance on their supporting the character of British soldiers, by their gallantry, discipline, and

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strict

strict attention to uniformity of system in all formation and field movements." Aug. 1801.

This brave army, which, by its persevering spirit, had surmounted every difficulty that interrupted its progress, whose courage was ready to encounter any dangers that might present themselves, and whose discipline would have insured them victory, arrived too late in Egypt to prove the more active part of its character. The battle of the twenty-first of March had been fought, while they were yet on their voyage from India.

Of this army the following is a correct statement :

INDIAN ARMY IN EGYPT.

Commander in Chief, Major-General Baird.

Corps and Commanders.

Detachment of the royal artillery.....	Captain Beaver.
Ditto of the Bengal ditto	Captain Fleming.
Ditto of the Bengal horse artillery	Captain Browne.
Madras artillery	Major Bell.
Bombay artillery.....	Captain Powell.
Commanding officer of the whole train	Major Bell.
Commissary of ordnance	Captain Scott.

INFANTRY.

Aug. 1801.

INFANTRY.

His Majesty's 10th regiment Lieut. Colonel Quarrel.
 ————— 61st ditto Lieut. Col. Carruthers.
 Detachment, 80th ditto Colonel Ramsay.
 Ditto, 86th ditto Lieut. Colonel Lloyd.
 Ditto, 88th ditto Colonel Beresford.
 Detachment, Bengal volunteers Captain Michie.
 First battalion, 1st Bombay regiment Major Holmes.
 Second ditto, 7th ditto Major Laureston.

One troop of his Majesty's 8th regiment of light dragoons, Captain Hawkers.

Adjutant-General to the army Colonel Achmuty.

Quarter-Master-General. Colonel Murray.

Brigadiers Beresford, Ramsay, and Montresor.

The troops which escorted the French garrison of Grand Cairo to Aboukir, now joined the army before Alexandria ; and preparations were made for immediately engaging in the siege of that place.

The first design in contemplation was to transport, by the Lake Mareotis, to the westward of Alexandria, a body of five thousand men, under the command of Major-General Coote, to invest the place on that side, and not only to divide the enemy's force and attention,

tention, but to cut off all further hope of reinforcement or supplies by land. As this operation, if it should be crowned with success, promised the most important effects; Lord Keith, accompanied by the Quarter-Master-General, Lieutenant-Colonel Anstruther, proceeded to examine the position of the enemy on the side of the Lake, and the force of the flotilla which had been collected there. As it was the opinion of these officers that the armed force could make little or no resistance, and that a debarkation would be effected without difficulty, it was determined to carry this project into immediate execution. Accordingly General Coote prepared to embark on the inundated lake with two battalions of the 54th, two battalions of the 27th, a part of the brigade of guards, the 30th regiment, &c. &c.

Aug. 1801.

Sunday 16.

To secure the landing from interruption, Captain Stevenson of the *Europa*, who commanded the flotilla, was ordered to station himself in front of the gun-boats and armed boats which the enemy had assembled on the Lake, and drawn up in a line, under batteries thrown up for their protection.

In the course of the evening, all the boats belonging to the ships of war and transports in the Bay, were assembled in the Lake Ma-reotis, with a considerable number of galleys, for the purpose of receiving the troops, who were embarked in the course of the night, and landed without opposition the next morning, under the super-

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intendance

Aug. 1801. intendance of Captain Elphinstone; but, from the state of the wind, considerably further to the westward than was originally proposed.

The enemy perceiving it to be impossible to save their vessels, endeavoured to convert them into fire ships, in order to throw the English flotilla into confusion. They however failed in accomplishing the intended mischief, and were all burned, except three which fell into our hands.

The troops accordingly secured their landing; when their first object was to attack the castle of Marabout, situate on a small fortified island that protects the entrance into the great harbour of Alexandria, on the western side of the town, and about seven miles distant from it. To obtain possession of this fort was a very essential object.

After two attacks, which were neither obstinate nor severe, and attended but with small loss, the troops got possession of some heights in front of the entrenched position of the enemy.

At this time Colonel Spencer had taken possession of an hill in front of the enemy's right, with about two hundred men of the 30th regiment, and added another to the many gallant actions of this glorious campaign. General Menou, who happened to be in this part of his works, and having often upbraided the French troops in the most opprobrious terms for pusillanimity in their past actions

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with the enemy; six hundred of the flower of the French army volunteered themselves to make a sortie, in order to drive Colonel Spencer's corps from their post, and regain the confidence of their Commander. They came forward, indeed, with the spirit of men who were determined to conquer or die; but they encountered a spirit more than equal to their own; for, instead of retreating from this very superior force, Colonel Spencer, without waiting for the attack, drew up his men, and advanced with bayonets fixed to meet the charge. The shock given, and received, may be more easily conceived than described; but the British nerve prevailed, and the British bayonet now decided the contest. A great number of the French were killed on the spot, many prisoners were taken, and the rest fled in confusion and with precipitation to the asylum of their entrenchments.

The flank companies of the 40th, with the 28th and 42d regiments, were ordered out to cover the working parties in our front, when, about three in the morning, we observed a body of cavalry coming down on our front. They indeed came so close that our sentinels fired on them, when they instantly returned the fire from their carbines; but, after receiving a discharge of musquetry from our flank companies, they retreated.

This movement of the enemy was merely to ascertain the spot where we lay; in order that they might direct a fire of grape and

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round

Aug. 1801. round shot at us with some degree of certainty. This attack we very soon received from all parts of their works; but by immediately changing our ground, we baffled the mischief that was so powerfully levelled at us.

Tuesday 18. Major-General Coote opened his batteries on the castle of Marabout: at the same time an attack was made from the sea by the Turkish gun-boats, and the launches from the fleet, which had been ordered by Admiral Sir Richard Bickerton to co-operate with the troops, under the direction of the Honourable Captain Cochrane. It was a very arduous enterprize, but performed with that patient resolution which characterised every part of the British army. The getting up such heavy pieces of artillery as were necessary for the service, through such a difficult and impracticable country, would have quenched any other spirit but that which performed it.

Friday 21. Major-General Coote sent the following summons to the Commanding Officer of the Fort of Marabout:

Summons of the Fort of Marabout.

" SIR,

Camp, August 21, 1801.

" As, after the event of this day, and the means employed against the fort which you command, there remain no hopes of your being able to defend it, or even to retire into Alexandria,

andria, I summon you, in the name of humanity, to surrender on the terms which shall be granted to you; otherwise you will be here answerable for all the consequences that may ensue, being determined to employ the whole of the British and Ottoman forces under my command to compel you to surrender. Aug. 1801.

“ I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) “ EYRE COOTE, Major-General.”

To the Officer commanding Fort Marabout.

Answer.

“ SIR, *Fort Marabout, (3d Fructidor,) Aug. 1801.*

“ I have the honour to lay before you the terms of capitulation which the garrison of Marabout require: and from the generosity which characterizes your nation, I promise myself that you will agree to them.

“ I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) “ ETIENNE.”

Capitulation of Fort Marabout.

ART. I. The garrison demand to march out with the honours of war.

Ans. The garrison shall march out with the honours of war;
and,

Aug. 1801. and, after having grounded their arms on the glacis, shall be prisoners of war.

ART. II. They shall preserve their baggage.

Ans. Granted.

ART. III. The officers shall have their swords and sabres.

Ans. Granted.

ART. IV. The garrison shall be conveyed into France, and treated during the voyage, each agreeably to his rank, and conformably to the maritime laws of England.

Ans. Answered by the first article. The garrison shall be conveyed to France, but shall not serve till they are exchanged.

ART. V. Such individuals as may have effects at Alexandria, shall have full permission to bring them away.

Ans. Answered, with the restrictions that shall be made by the officers commanding the land and sea forces of England.

ART.

ART. VI. An officer shall be sent from the garrison to the General in Chief, to communicate to him the present capitulation. Aug. 1801,

Ans. A French officer shall be sent to Alexandria by sea. A detachment of British forces shall take possession of the Fort of Marabout, immediately after the ratification of the present capitulation. The garrison shall march out to-morrow morning, and after having deposited their arms on the glacis, shall be embarked on English vessels.

Done at Fort Marabout, the 3d Fructidor, the 9th year
of the French Republic.

(Signed) ETIENNE, the Chief of Battalion.

Ratified, conformably to the powers delegated to me by Major-General Coote, and Captain Cochrane of the royal navy.

(Signed) C. DARBY, Lieut. Colonel 54th Regiment.

This was a post of much importance to our fleet, and the circumstance of its capture was greatly enhanced by the consideration that it was obtained without any loss on the side of the besiegers.

The garrison of the fort consisted of one hundred and eighty men, and were commanded by a Chef de Brigade.

The

Aug. 1801.

Saturday 22.

The Honourable Captain Cochrane having entered with seven sloops into the western harbour of Alexandria, in the course of the preceding evening, Major-General Coote determined to move forward, in order to take as advanced a position near the town of Alexandria as the nature of circumstances would admit.

Accordingly, at an early hour in the morning, the troops advanced against the enemy, who was strongly posted upon a ridge of high hills, his right flank being secured by two heavy guns, and his left by two batteries containing three more, with many field pieces placed in the intervals of his line.

The army moved through the sand hills in three columns, the guards forming two upon the right near the lake, and Major-General Ludlow's brigade the third on the left, having the first battalion of the 27th regiment in advance. The brigade of Major-General Finch composed a reserve. The field artillery was with the advanced guard.

In this array the troops moved forward with the greatest order and intrepidity, under an heavy fire of cannon and musquetry, and forcing the enemy to retreat before them, till they were driven within the walls of Alexandria. Their loss was very considerable; and they left, in the hurry of their retreat, seven heavy pieces of artillery behind them, which consequently fell into our hands.

In

Aug. 1801.

In the course of the evening several deserters came in from the enemy, who communicated the intelligence that General Menou had issued orders for the purpose of attacking our forces on the western side of Alexandria at three o'clock the following morning: Measures, therefore, were immediately adopted to the eastward to prevent this attack, and draw the attention of the enemy to that quarter. Accordingly, a detachment of two grenadier companies of the 40th, two hundred of the Chasseurs Britanniques, and an hundred and fifty of the 28th regiment, were ordered to take post with our out-piquets till two o'clock in the morning, at which time we doubled the sentinels, and extended them entirely across the plain. In this order we immediately advanced on the French piquets, an officer of each of the corps above-mentioned leading the sentinels of his own corps, and followed up with the remainder of the detachment.

Sunday 28.

When we arrived within about musquet shot of the French piquets, they immediately fired, and the drum beat the retreat. We followed up in this manner, till we drove them into their strong works, our sentinels firing as they advanced, which, as the fire extended from right to left, had the appearance as if our whole army was advancing on them.

This manoeuvre had the desired effect, and prevented the enemy from making an attack to the westward.

3 B

When

Aug. 1801.

When at length day-light appeared, and the French discovered the handfull of men which had filled them with so much alarm, and, as it were, under their works, they opened every gun, mortar, and howitzer they could bring to bear on us, but without the least effect: for we marched back to our camp in slow time and open files without the loss of a man, though at least thirty pieces of artillery, of different kinds, were playing on us.

Tuesday 25.

As it was a very desirable object to approach as near as possible towards the enemy's advanced work, the redoubt de Bain, Major-General Coote ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, with the first battalion of the 20th regiment, and a small detachment of the 26th light dragoons, commanded by Lieutenant Kelly, to attack and drive in the French outposts on the right of their position. A battalion of infantry was also disposed on the sand-hills to support them.

As soon as it was dark, Lieutenant-Colonel Smith commenced the attack by turning the enemy's piquets: and the whole of this service was performed with such activity and resolution, as to secure the means of erecting a battery within six hundred yards of the redoubt de Bain.

We lost no more than three men in this spirited enterprize,
7 while

while at least an hundred of the enemy were left dead in the field. Aug. 1891.

The enemy, exasperated at our success, made several attempts to regain the ground from which they had been driven the preceding night, but was repulsed with great loss. Wednesd. 26.

This morning we opened four batteries on each side of the town against the entrenched encampment of the enemy, which soon silenced, and compelled them to withdraw, many of their guns.

In the evening General Menou sent an aid-de-camp to request an armistice for three days, in order to prepare a capitulation. Thursday 27.

At four o'clock in the morning hostilities recommenced, and lasted till eight o'clock the same evening, when another flag of truce came in, and the firing ceased. Sunday 30.

The terms of capitulation were finally agreed upon, and the articles signed. SEPTEMBER.
Wednesd. 2.

Sept. 1801.

TRANSLATION.

Articles of the Capitulation proposed by Abdoullahy Jacques Francois Menou, General in Chief of the French Army now in Alexandria, to the Generals commanding the Land and Sea Forces of his Britannic Majesty, and of the Sublime Porte, forming the Blockade of Alexandria, dated the 12th Fructidor, Year Nine of the French Republic, (30th August 1801.)

ART. I. From the present date to the 30th Fructidor, (17th Sept. 1801,) there shall be a continuation of the truce and suspension of arms between the French army and the combined armies of his Britannic Majesty, and of the Sublime Porte, upon the same conditions with those which actually subsist, with the exception of a regulation, to be amicably settled between the respective Generals of the two armies, for establishing a new line of advanced posts, in order to remove all pretext of hostility between the troops.

Ans. Refused.

ART. II. In case no adequate succours should arrive to the French army before the day mentioned in the preceding article, that army shall evacuate the forts and entrenched camps of Alexandria, upon the following conditions.

Ans. Refused.

ART.

ART. III. The French army shall retire, on the first complementary day of the French era, into the city of Alexandria and forts adjacent, and shall deliver up to the Allied Powers the entrenched Camp in front of the lines of the Arabs, the Fort Le Turc, and the Fort Du Vivier, together with their artillery and ammunition. Sept. 1801.

ANS. In forty-eight hours after the signing of the capitulation, namely, on the 2d of September, at noon, the entrenched camps, the Fort Le Turc, and that of Du Vivier, shall be delivered up to the Allied Powers. The ammunition and artillery of these forts shall also be delivered up. The French troops shall evacuate the city, forts, and dependencies of Alexandria ten days after the signing the capitulation, or at the time of their embarkation.

ART. IV. All individuals, constituting a part of the French army, or attached to it by any relations, military or civil; the auxiliary troops of every nation, country or religion, or of whatever powers they might have been subjects before the arrival of the French, shall preserve their property of every description, their effects, papers, &c. &c.; which shall not be subject to any examination.

ANS. Granted; provided that nothing be carried away belonging to the government of the French Republic, but only the effects, baggage,

Sept. 1801. baggage, and other articles belonging to the French and auxiliary soldiers, who have served during six months in the army of the Republic: the same is to be understood of all the individuals attached to the French army by civil or military capacities, of whatever nation, country or religion they may be.

ART. V. The French forces, the auxiliary troops, and all the individuals described in the preceding article, shall be embarked in the ports of Alexandria, between the 5th and the 10th of Vendemiaire, Year Ten of the Republic, at the latest, (27th September to the 3d October 1801,) together with their arms, stores, baggage, effects, and property of all kinds, official papers and deposits, one field piece to each battalion and squadron, with ammunition, &c. &c. the whole to be conveyed to one of the ports of the French Republic in the Mediterranean, to be determined by the General in Chief of the French army.

Ans. The French forces (the auxiliary troops, and all the individuals described in the 4th article,) shall be embarked in the ports of Alexandria, (unless, after an amicable convention, it should be found more expeditious to embark a part of them at Aboukir,) as soon as vessels can be prepared; the Allied Powers at the same time engaging that the embarkation shall take place, if possible, ten days after the capitulation shall be signed; they shall receive all the honours of war, shall carry away their arms and baggage, shall not
be

be prisoners of war, and shall moreover take with them ten pieces of cannon from four to eight pounders, with ten rounds of shot to each gun; they shall be conveyed to a French port in the Mediterranean.

Sept. 1801.

ART. VI. The French ships of war, with their full compliment, and all merchant ships, to whatever nation or individuals they may belong, even those of nations at war with the Allied Powers, or those that are the property of owners or merchants who were subject to the Allied Powers before the arrival of the French, shall depart with the French army, in order that those that are ships of war may be restored to the French government, and the merchant ships to the owners, or to their assignees.

Ans. Refused. All vessels shall be delivered up as they are.

ART. VII. Every single ship that from the present day to the 30th Fructidor shall arrive from the French Republic, or any of her allies, into the ports or roads of Alexandria, shall be comprehended in this capitulation. Every ship of war or commerce belonging to France, or the allies of the republic, that shall arrive in the ports or road of Alexandria, within the twenty days immediately following the evacuation of that place, shall not be considered a lawful prize, but shall be set at liberty, with her equipage and cargo, and be furnished with a passport from the Allied Powers.

Ans.

Sept. 1801.

Ans. Refused.

ART. VIII. The French and auxiliary troops, the civil and military agents attached to the army, and all other individuals described in the preceding articles, shall be embarked on board such French and other vessels, actually in the ports of Alexandria, as shall be in a condition to go to sea ; or on board those of his Britannic Majesty and of the Sublime Porte, within the time fixed by the fifth article.

ART. IX. Commissaries shall be named by each party to regulate the number of vessels to be employed, the number of men to be embarked upon them, and generally to provide for all the difficulties that may arise in carrying into execution the present capitulation.

Those commissaries shall agree upon the different positions which shall be taken by the ships now in the port of Alexandria, and those which shall be furnished by the Allied Powers, so that by a well regulated arrangement, every occasion of difference between the crews of the several nations may be avoided.

Ans. All these details will be regulated by the English Admiral, and by an officer of the French navy named by the General in Chief.

ART. X. Merchants and owners of ships, of whatever nation or religion

religion they may be, and also the inhabitants of Egypt, and of every other country, who may at the present time be in Alexandria, whether Syrians, Copts, Greeks, Arabs, Jews, &c. and who shall be desirous of following the French army, shall be embarked with and enjoy the same advantages with that army; they shall be at liberty to remove their property of all kinds, and to leave powers for the disposal of what they may not be able to take away. All arrangements, all sales, all stipulations, whether of commerce, or of any other nature made by them, shall be strictly carried into effect after their departure, and be maintained by the Generals of his Britannic Majesty and of the Sublime Porte. Those who may prefer remaining in Egypt a certain time, on account of their private affairs, shall be at liberty so to do, and shall have full protection from the Allied Powers; those also who may be desirous of establishing themselves in Egypt, shall be entitled to all the privileges and rights of which they were in possession before the arrival of the French.

Ans. Every article of merchandize, whether in the town of Alexandria, or on board the vessels that are in the ports, shall be provisionally at the disposition of the Allied Powers, but subject to such definitive regulation as may be determined by established usage and the law of nations. Private merchants shall be at liberty to accompany the French army, or they may remain in the country in security.

Sept. 1801.

ART. XI. None of the inhabitants of Egypt, or of any other nation or religion, shall be called to account for their conduct during the period of the French troops having been in the country, particularly for having taken arms in their favour, or having been employed by them.

Ans. Granted.

ART. XII. The troops, and all others who may be embarked with them, shall be fed, during their passage, and until their arrival at France, at the expence of the Allied Powers, and conformably to the rules of the French navy. The Allied Powers shall supply every thing that may be necessary for the embarkation.

Ans. The troops and all others who may be embarked with them, shall be fed during their passage, and until their arrival in France, at the expence of the Allied Powers, according to the usage established in the marine of England.

ART. XIII. The Consuls, and all other public agents of the several powers in alliance with the French Republic, shall continue in the enjoyment of all the privileges and rights which are granted by civilized nations to diplomatic agents. Their property, all their effects and papers shall be respected and placed under the protection

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of

of the Allied Powers. They shall be at liberty to retire or to remain as they may think fit. Sept. 1801.

Ans. The Consuls and all other public agents of the powers in alliance with the French Republic, shall be at liberty to remain or to retire as they may judge fit. Their property and effects of any kind, together with their papers, shall be preserved for them, provided they conduct themselves with loyalty, and conformably to the law of nations.

ART. XIV. The sick, who may be judged by the medical staff of the army to be in a state for removal, shall be embarked at the same time with the army, upon hospital ships properly furnished with medicines, provisions, and every other store that may be necessary for their situation; and they shall be attended by French surgeons. Those of the sick who may be in a condition to undertake the voyage shall be delivered over to the care and humanity of the Allied Powers. French physicians and other medical assistance shall be left for their care, to be maintained at the expence of the Allied Powers, who shall send them to France as soon as their state of health may permit, together with any thing belonging to them, in the same manner as has been proposed for the rest of the army.

Sept. 1801.

Ans. Granted. The ships destined for hospitals shall be prepared for the reception of those who may fall sick during the passage. The medical staff of the two armies shall concert together in what manner to dispose of those of the sick who, having contagious disorders, ought not to have communication with the others.

ART. XV. Horse transports, for conveying sixty horses, with every thing necessary for their subsistence during the passage, shall be furnished.

Ans. Granted.

ART. XVI. The individuals composing the institute of Egypt and the commission of arts, shall carry with them all the papers, plans, memoirs, collections of natural history, and all the monuments of art and antiquity collected by them in Egypt.

Ans. The members of the institute may carry with them all the instruments of arts and science which they have brought from France; but the Arabian manuscripts, the statues, and other collections which have been made for the French Republic, shall be considered as public property, and subject to the disposal of the Generals of the combined army.

General

General Hope having declared, in consequence of some observations of the Commander in Chief of the French army, that he could make no alteration in this article, it has been agreed that a reference thereupon should be made to the Commander in Chief of the combined army.

Sept. 1801.

ART. XVII. The vessels which shall be employed in conveying the French and auxiliary army, as well as the different persons who shall accompany it, shall be escorted by ships of war belonging to the Allied Powers, who formally engage that they shall not, in any manner, be molested during their voyage; the safety of such of these vessels as may be separated by stress of weather, or other accidents, shall be guaranteed by the Generals of the allied forces: the vessels conveying the French army shall not, under any pretence, touch at any other than the French coast, except in case of absolute necessity.

Ans. Granted. The Commander in Chief of the French army entering into a reciprocal engagement that none of these vessels shall be molested during their stay in France, or on their return; he equally engaging that they shall be furnished with every thing which may be necessary, according to the constant practice of European Powers.

Sept. 1801.

ART. XVIII. At the time of giving up the camps and forts according to the terms of the third article, the prisoners in Egypt shall be respectively given up on both sides.

Ans. Granted.

ART. XIX. Commissaries shall be named to receive the artillery of the place and of the forts, stores, magazines, plans, and other articles that the French leave to the Allied Powers; and lists and inventories shall be made out, signed by the commissaries of the different Powers, according as the forts and magazines shall be given up to the Allied Powers.

Ans. Granted. Provided that all the plans of the city and forts of Alexandria, as well as all maps of the country, shall be delivered up to the English commissary. The batteries, cisterns, and other public buildings, shall also be given up in the condition in which they actually are.

ART. XX. A passport shall be granted to a French armed vessel, in order to convey to Toulon, immediately after the camps and forts before-mentioned shall be given up, officers charged by the Commander in Chief to carry to his government the present capitulation.

Ans.

Ans. Granted. But if it is a French vessel, it shall not be armed. Sept. 1801.

ART. XXI. On giving up the camps and forts mentioned in the preceding articles, hostages shall be given on both sides, in order to guarantee the execution of the present treaty. They shall be chosen from among the officers of rank in the respective armies: namely, four from the French army, two from the British troops, and two from the troops of the Sublime Porte. The four French hostages shall be embarked on board the English ship commanding the squadron, and the four British and Turkish hostages on board one of the vessels which shall carry the Commander in Chief, or the Lieutenant-Generals. - They shall all be reciprocally delivered up on their arrival in France.

Ans. There shall be placed in the hands of the Commander in Chief of the French army, four officers of rank as hostages, namely one officer of the navy, one officer of the British army, and two officers of the Turkish army. The Commander in Chief shall, in like manner, place in the hands of the Commander in Chief of the British army, four officers of rank. The hostages shall be restored on both sides at the period of the embarkation.

ART. XXII. If any difficulties should arise during the execution
of

Sept. 1801. of the present capitulation, they shall be amicably settled by the commissaries of the armies.

Ans. Granted.

(Signed) KEITH, Admiral,

(Signed) JOHN HELY HUTCHINSON, Lieutenant-General,
Commanding in Chief.

(Signed) HUSSEIN, Capitan Pacha.

(Signed) ABDOULLAHY JACQUES FRANCOIS MENOUE,
General in Chief of the French army.

(A true Copy.)

JAMES KEMPT, Lieutenant-Colonel and Secretary.

Such was the conquest and glory acquired by the British arms in Egypt. Brighter laurels were never obtained by military prowess in any age or nation of the world. Unconquerable bravery, consolidated by perfect discipline, and animated by that ardent love of their king and country, which is the native, inborn principle of Englishmen, produced the splendid achievements which it is the office of this volume to record.

When

When it is considered that the British army had to march through a country which presented almost insuperable difficulties; and that they had to contend with an enemy for upwards of two years established in Egypt, inured to its burning climate, and in possession of all the strong holds and fortresses; when we reflect that the number of troops, of which the hostile army was composed, exceeded by some thousands the whole of the British force, and had been habituated to conquest; we are at a loss to express the high sense which their country must entertain, of that intrepidity, perseverance, and patriot spirit which enabled them to close their brilliant career of victory, by obtaining the surrender of Alexandria, and the whole French army in Egypt. Sept. 1801.

Camp near Alexandria, Sept. 29, 1801.

Abstract of the Valuation of Ordnance, Ammunition, and Stores captured from the French by the British Army in Egypt.

	8th, 13th, and 21st.	Aboukir Castle	Fort Julien.	Fort Barlaa.	Grand Cairo.	Gisch.	Island of Rosa.	Alexandria.	Ships of War.	Total
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Ordnance and carriages	681	1905	674	330	14430	15458	.....	31040	6194	70712
Ammunition.....	.....	2670	1196	.....	22748	6249	.....	59580	400	92843
General Stores.....	.....	160	130	.....	875	22860	.....	21502	205	45732
Implements, materials, artificers tools in the foundry, laboratories, work shops, store-houses, &c. &c. &c. }	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	860	10622	1876	.....	13385
<i>Total</i>	681	4735	2000	330	38053	45427	10622	113998	6799	222645

OFFICIAL PAPERS

RELATING TO

THE EXPEDITION IN EGYPT.

No. I.

*Letter from General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. to the Earl of Elgin,
dated Camp before Alexandria, March 16, 1801.*

Camp before Alexandria, March 16.

MY LORD,

ON the 1st inst. the fleet arrived in sight of Alexandria ; on the 2d it anchored in Aboukir Bay : the weather did not permit any debarkation before the 8th ; on that day it was happily effected under the most trying circumstances. The boats had near a mile to row, and were for some time under the fire of fifteen pieces of artillery, and the musquetry of two thousand five hundred men ; still the intrepidity of the troops overcame every difficulty. We took eight pieces of cannon.

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On

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

On the 9th, the remainder of the army was landed. On the 12th, we marched forward to within two leagues of Alexandria, and one league of the enemy, who were advantageously posted on a ridge, with their right to the Canal of Alexandria, and their left to the sea. On the 13th, we moved forward to attack the enemy, and to turn their left. They did not, however, wait, but came down and attacked us. The action was warm, but the enemy were every where forced under the walls of Alexandria. Our loss is considerable. Although Colonel Erskine is wounded, he is doing well ; he has lost a leg. His regiment gained great credit, but suffered severely. No officer of rank is killed, or dangerously wounded. Excuse this scrawl, written on my knee.

(Signed)

R. ABERCROMBY.

No. II.

*Extract of a Letter from Colonel Anstruther to Colonel Brownrigg,
dated Camp near Alexandria, March 16.*

THE fleet sailed from Marmorice on the 22d of February, and anchored in Aboukir Bay on the 2d of March. From that day to the 7th, the weather was so boisterous, and the swell so great, that it was impracticable to disembark : this circumstance gave the enemy full leisure to collect troops and artillery, and to make every necessary preparation to oppose us. The whole infantry of the garrison of Alexandria, three hundred cavalry, and fourteen or fifteen pieces of cannon, were placed on a space of little more than two miles, from near the Castle of Aboukir, to the narrow Isthmus which forms the boundary of the Lake. Such was the situation in which we found things on the morning of the 8th, when the descent was made.

Nothing

Nothing, I think, ever exceeded the boldness and perseverance with which the boats continued to approach the shore, under a shower of bullets, shells, and grape. Every discharge was answered by a shout from the seamen, and all seemed totally insensible of danger. The reserve on the right formed as if on the parade, and in a moment carried a height equal to, and very like to that of, Camperdown. The left were charged by the cavalry the moment they got out of the boats. However, they drove every thing before them, and in the course of three quarters of an hour the enemy was completely beaten, with the loss of half his artillery. After a halt of two or three hours, in order to disembark ammunition, and wait for part of General Coote's brigade, which had not been landed, the army advanced about four miles, where we remained till the 12th; the landing of provisions and stores being much impeded by the boisterous weather.

On the 12th we again marched about five miles, constantly skirmishing with the advanced guard of the enemy, who had received a reinforcement of two half brigades of infantry, and one regiment of cavalry, from Cairo. We halted for the night, about three miles from the enemy's position, which seemed and proved very advantageous.

Next morning the army moved to attack the right of it, marching by lines from the left; the reserve covering the movement, and moving parallel with the first fire. As the column advanced into the plain, the enemy attacked the heads of both with all his cavalry, supported by a considerable body of infantry, and ten or twelve pieces of cannon. This attack was repulsed by the advanced guard (the 90th and 92d,) both of which behaved most nobly. The first line then formed two lines to the front of march, the flanks of which were protected by the reserve, and continued to advance in that manner, whilst the second line continuing still

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

still in column (excepting the first brigade of it), turned the enemy's right and forced him to quit his position. The army followed in the order above stated, and Sir Ralph had given orders for renewing the attack on the heights close to the town, to which the enemy retreated ; but on examining them with attention, it was thought that they were under the guns of the forts, and could not probably be kept, if carried ; the army took up in the evening the ground which the enemy had quitted.

The force the enemy opposed to us appeared about five thousand infantry, six hundred cavalry, and a large proportion of artillery ; the ground being particularly favourable to the two last. The movements, although under a constant cannonade, were regular and accurate : the General in this last action had his horse shot under him.

The position we occupy is good ; it cuts off the communication between Alexandria and the Nile, excepting through the desert : our supplies are conveyed by means of the Lake with ease and security.

No III.

DOWNING STREET, MAY 9.

A dispatch, addressed to the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, was this day received at the Office of the Right Honourable Lord Hobart, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, from General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's troops serving in the Mediterranean.

Camp before Alexandria, March 16.

SIR,

ALTHOUGH it was not originally my intention to have commenced the
operations

operations of the British army in Egypt on the side of Alexandria, yet circumstances arose which induced me to change my opinion. We were much longer delayed on the coast of Asia Minor than we had at first any reason to apprehend ; and we were ultimately obliged to sail from Marmorice in a very imperfect state of preparation. I am fully sensible of the exertions of his Majesty's ambassador at the Ottoman Porte, as well as of the quarter-master general, and the other officers who were sent forward to provide for the necessities of the army. Our delays originated from other causes. For a considerable time previous to our sailing, the weather was extremely boisterous, and the winds contrary. The moment that it became practicable to sail with so large a fleet, Lord Keith put to sea ; we left Marmorice on the 22d of February, and came in sight of Alexandria on the 1st of March.

On the 2d the fleet anchored in Aboukir Bay. Until the 7th the sea ran high, and no disembarkation could be effected ; on that day every arrangement was completed, and on the 8th the troops forming the first division, consisting of the reserve, under the command of Major-General Moore, the brigade of guards under the Honourable Major-General Ludlow, and part of the first brigade under the command of Major-General Coote, got into the boats early in the morning : they had, in general, from five to six miles to row, and did not arrive at the point of landing till ten o'clock. The front of disembarkation was narrow, and a hill, which commanded the whole, seemed almost inaccessible. The enemy were fully aware of our intention, were in force, and had every advantage on their side. The troops, however, notwithstanding their being exposed to a very severe cannonade, and under the fire of grape-shot, made good their landing, ascended the hill with an intrepidity scarcely to be paralleled,

leled, and forced the enemy to retire, leaving behind him seven pieces of artillery and a number of horses.

The troops that ascended the hill were the 22d regiment, and the four flank companies of the 40th, under the command of Colonel Spencer, whose coolness and good conduct Major-General Moore has mentioned to me in the highest terms of approbation. It is impossible to pass over the good order in which the 28th and 42d regiments landed, under the command of Brigadier-General Oakes, who was attached to the reserve under Major-General Moore; and the troops in general lost not a moment in remedying any little disorder which became unavoidable in a landing under such circumstances. The disembarkation of the army continued on that and the following day. The troops which landed on the 8th advanced three miles the same day; and on the 12th the whole army moved forward, and came within sight of the enemy, who was formed on an advantageous ridge, with his right to the Canal of Alexandria, and his left towards the sea. It was determined to attack them on the morning of the 13th, and in consequence, the army marched in two lines by the left, with an intention to turn their right flank. The troops had not been long in motion, before the enemy descended from the heights on which they were formed, and attacked the leading brigades of both lines, which were commanded by Major-General Craddock and Major-General the Earl of Cavan.

The 90th regiment formed the advanced guard of the front line, and the 92d that of the second; both battalions suffered considerably, and behaved in such a manner as to merit the praise both of courage and discipline. Major-General Craddock immediately formed his brigade to

meet the attack made by the enemy ; and the troops changed their position with a quickness and precision which did them the greatest honour. The remainder of the army followed so good an example, and were immediately in a situation, not only to face, but to repel the enemy. The reserve under the command of Major-General Moore, which was on the right, on the change of the position of the army, moved on in column, and covered the right flank. The army continued to advance, pushing the enemy with the greatest vigour, and ultimately forcing them to put themselves under the protection of the fortified heights which form the principal defence of Alexandria. It was intended to have attacked them in this their last position : for which purpose, the reserve, under the command of Major-General Moore, which had remained in column during the whole of the day, was brought forward ; and the second line, under the command of Major-General Hutchinson, marched to the left, across a part of the Lake Mareotis, with a view to attack the enemy on both flanks : but on reconnoitring their position, and not being prepared to occupy it after it should be carried, prudence required that the troops who had behaved so bravely, and who were still willing to attempt any thing, however arduous, should not be exposed to a certain loss, when the extent of the advantage could not be ascertained. They were therefore withdrawn, and now occupy a position with their right to the sea, and their left to the canal of Alexandria and Lake Mareotis, about a league from the town of Alexandria. I have the greatest satisfaction in saying, that the conduct of the British and foreign troops under my command is deserving of the highest praise ; their courage and their discipline have been equally conspicuous. To all the general officers I am indebted for their zeal and intelligence. From the Hon. Brigadier-General Hope, Adjutant-General, and Lieutenant-Colonel Anstruther, Quarter-Master-

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General,

General, I have received every testimony of zeal, and the most able assistance, in the operations of the army; and to the other officers of the general staff I feel obligations. On the 8th, the arrangements made by Lord Keith were such as to enable us to land at once a body of six thousand troops.

The Hon. Captain Cochrane, and those other captains and officers of the royal navy, who were entrusted with the disembarkation, not only of the troops, but of the artillery, ammunition, provisions, and stores of all kinds, have exerted themselves in such a manner as to claim the warmest acknowledgments of the whole army. Sir Sidney Smith, and the other captains and officers of the navy under his command, who landed with the army, have been indefatigable in forwarding the service on which they are employed. The enemy have left a small garrison in Aboukir castle: it has been necessary to bring up a few pieces of heavy artillery, and there is reason to believe that it will speedily surrender.

Majors MacKarras and Fletcher, of the royal engineers, who went down in the *Penelope* frigate to survey the coast of Egypt, a short time before we sailed from Marmorice, were unfortunately surprized in a small boat in Aboukir Bay: the former was killed, and the latter taken prisoner. Our communication with the fleet is at present kept up by means of the Lake of Aboukir. We have been fortunate enough to find water sufficient for the supply of the army; and we begin to derive some supplies from the country.

I have the honour to inclose herewith returns of the killed and wounded

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in the actions of the 8th and 13th instant, together with a return of the artillery taken from the enemy on those days.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) RALPH ABERCROMBY.

P. S.—I have had no means of ascertaining the loss of the enemy, but it must have been considerable.

Return of the Killed, Wounded, and Missing, of the Army under the Command of General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. Aboukir, March 8.

Brigade of Guards.—1st battalion of the Coldstream, 1 officer, 17 rank and file killed; 5 officers, 11 serjeants, 1 drummer, 57 rank and file, wounded; 6 rank and file missing. 1st battalion of the 3d regiment, 1 serjeant, 4 rank and file, killed; 2 serjeants, 38 rank and file, wounded; 1 drummer, 7 rank and file, missing.

1st Brigade.—2d battalion of royals, 1 serjeant, 11 rank and file, killed; 4 officers, 3 serjeants, 40 rank and file, wounded. 1st battalion of the 54th regiment, 1 officer, 3 rank and file, killed; 1 officer, 2 serjeants, 1 drummer, 4 rank and file, wounded. 2d battalion of the 54th regiment, 1 rank and file, killed; 1 officer, 1 serjeant, 9 rank and file, wounded.

Reserve.—23d regiment, 6 rank and file, killed; 2 officers, 1 serjeant, 37 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file missing. 28th regiment, 5 rank and file killed; 1 serjeant, 33 rank and file, wounded. 42d ditto, 1 serjeant, 20 rank and file, killed; 8 officers, 7 serjeants, 1 drummer, 140 rank and file, wounded. 58th regiment, 1 officer, 9 rank and file, killed; 2 officers, 4 serjeants, 41 rank and file, wounded; 5 rank and file missing. 1st battalion of the 40th regiment, flank company, 1 officer, 8 rank and file, killed; 2 officers, 1 drummer, 19 rank and file, wounded. 2d battalion of the 40th regiment, flank company, 1 serjeant, 6 rank and file, killed; 11 rank and file wounded.

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Corsican rangers, 4 rank and file killed; 1 officer, 2 serjeants, 1 drummer, 21 rank and file, wounded; 1 officer, 1 serjeant, 13 rank and file, missing.

Total.—4 officers, 4 serjeants, 94 rank and file, killed; 26 officers, 34 serjeants, 5 drummers, 450 rank and file, wounded; 1 officer, 1 serjeant, 1 drummer, 32 rank and file, missing.

OFFICERS KILLED.

Ensign Warren, of the Coldstream guards; Major Ogle, of the 58th regiment; Hon. Ensign Mead, of the 40th flank company; Ensign England, of the 1st battalion 54th regiment.

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

Guards, Captains Plunkett, Frederick, Beadon, Myers; and Surgeon Rose. 23d regiment, Captains Lloyd and Pearson. 42d regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel James Stewart; Captain M'Quarrie; Lieutenants Alexander Campbell, Dick, Frederick Campbell, Stewart Campbell, Charles Campbell, and Ensign Wilson. 58th regiment, Captain Best, and Ensign Rolt. Corsican rangers, Captain Panattini. 2d battalion royals, Captain Alexander M'Donald; Lieutenants James Graham, Thomas Fraser, and Thomas Lister. 1st battalion of the 54th, Capt. Shipley. 2d battalion of ditto, Lieut. George O'Halleren.

N. B. Lieutenant Guttera, 1 serjeant, and 12 rank and file of the Corsican rangers, taken prisoners, are returned in the column of missing.

(Signed) JOHN HOPE, Adjutant-General.

Return of the Killed, Wounded, and Missing, of the Army under the Command of General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. near Alexandria, March 13, 1801.

Total.—6 officers, 6 serjeants, 1 drummer, 143 rank and file, 21 horses, killed; 66 officers, 1 quarter-master, 61 serjeants, 7 drummers, 946 rank and file, 24 horses, wounded; 1 rank and file missing.

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OFFICERS KILLED.

Coldstream guards, Ensign Jenkinson. 13th regiment, Captain Chester. 18th regiment, Captain Jones; Brigade-Major Foster. 28th regiment, Captain Godley, volunteer; Laut. 30th regiment, Ensign T. Rodgers. 50th regiment, Lieutenant Stewart.

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

26th light dragoons, Lieutenant Woodgate. Coldstream guards, Captain Beadon, 1st battalion of the 54th regiment, Ensign T. C. Kirby. 2d battalion of the 54th regiment, Captains Gibson, Cairns, Roberts; Lieutenants B. Stone, G. Mills; Ensign J. Kelly. 92d regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Erskine; Captains Ramsay, Macdonald; Lieutenants Macleod, Doule, M'Donald, F. Campbell, Clarke, R. Macdonald, Cameron; Ensign Wilkie. 8th regiment, Major Duke, Captains M'Murdo, Fortye; Lieutenants Church, O'Brien, Eason. 13th regiment, Captain Brown; Lieutenants Dolphin, Serle, Copland, Handcock, Rich; Ensigns Hewson, Andrews, O'Maley. 90th regiment, Col. Hill; Lieutenant-Colonel Vigoreux, Captain Eden; Lieutenants Tisdell, Cartwright, Wright. 79th regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonall; Lieutenants Sutherland, Stuart; Volunteer Alexander Cameron. 30th regiment, Captain John Douglas; Lieutenant Duncan, of the 21st regiment. 44th regiment, Colonel Tilson; Lieutenant Brown; Ensign Berwick. De Rolle's regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Baron Duler; Major Sonnenburg; Lieutenant Bachenau. Dillon's regiment, Captain Renaud; Lieutenant Montureux; Ensign Canillac. 28th regiment, Captain Bevan. 42d regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Dixon; Captain A. Campbell; Lieutenant S. Fraser. Corsicans, Lieutenant Guslami. Royal artillery, Captain T. Boger; Lieutenant-Sturgeon; Quarter-Master-Commissary Lane. Lieutenant O'Brien, of the 8th regiment, since dead of his wounds.

(Signed) J. HOPE, Adjutant-General.

March 18.—Lieutenant-Colonel Bryce, of the Coldstream guards, wounded and taken prisoner on the evening of the 14th inst. and since dead of his wounds.

(Signed) J. HOPE, Adjutant-General.

Return

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Return of Brass and Iron Ordnance captured on the 8th inst. at and near Aboukir, by the Forces under the Command of his Excellency Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. Commander in Chief, &c.

Brass in French measure.—One 26-pounder, one 8-pounder, three 4-pounders, one six-inch howitzer.

Iron.—One 9-pounder, one 6-pounder, one ammunition waggon, and a small quantity of shells, shot, and musket ammunition.

(Signed) R. LAWSON, Brigadier-General,
commanding Royal Artillery.

Four field-pieces, with a quantity of ammunition, taken on the 13th.

(Signed) J. HOPE, Adj. Gen.

No. IV.

Letter from Admiral Lord Keith, K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Mediterranean, to Evan Nepean, esq. dated on board the Foudroyant, in the Bay of Aboukir, 10th March.

SIR,

My dispatches of the 22d ult. by the *Speedwell*, will have acquainted you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the armament on that day quitted the harbour of Marmorice for this place, which the whole fleet reached on the 2d inst. the Turkish gun-boats and kaicks excepted, all of which, by night, bore up for Macri, Cyprus, and other ports, during the prevalence of strong westerly gales that we encountered on the passage.

Too much of the day of our arrival here had elapsed before all the ships could get to anchorage, to admit of the landing being effected before the approach of night: and an unfortunate succession of strong northerly gales, attended by a heavy swell, rendered it impossible to disembark before the 8th. The necessary preparations were made on the preceding evening. The boats began to receive the troops at two o'clock in the morning, and at three the signal was made for their proceeding to rendezvous near the *Mondovi*, anchored about a gun-shot from the shore, where it had been determined that they were to be assembled and properly arranged; but such was the extent of the anchorage occupied by so large a fleet, and so great the distance of many of them from any one given point, that it was not till nine the signal could be made for the boats to advance towards the shore.

The whole line began to move with great celerity towards the beach, between the castle of Aboukir and the entrance of the Sed, under the direction of the Hon. Captain Cochrane, of his Majesty's ship the *Ajax*, assisted by Captains Steevenson, Scott, Larmour, Apthorpe, and Morrison, of the *Europa*, *Stately*, *Diadem*, *Druid*, and *Thisbe*, and the respective agents of transports, the right flank being protected by the *Cruelle* cutter, and the *Dangereuse* and *Janissary* gun-vessels; and the left by the *Entrepenant* cutter, *Malta* schooner, and *Nigresse* gun-vessel, with two launches of the fleet on each, armed for the purpose of supplying the places of the Turkish gun-vessels, of whose service I had been deprived. Captain Sir Sidney Smith, of the *Tigre*, with the Captains Riboleau, Guion, Saville, Burn, and Hillyar, of the *Astrea*, *Eurus*, *Experiment*, *Blonde* and *Niger*, appointed, with a detachment of seamen, to co-operate with the army, had the charge of the launches, with the field-artillery accompanying the troops. The *Tartarus* and *Fury* were placed in proper situations for
throwing

throwing shot and shells with advantage ; and the *Peterell*, *Cameleon*, and *Minorca*, were moored as near as possible, with their broadsides to the shore.

The enemy had not failed to avail himself of the unavoidable delays to which we had been exposed, for strengthening the naturally difficult coast to which we were to approach. The whole garrison of Alexandria, said to amount to near 3000 men, reinforced with many small detachments that had been observed to advance from the Rosetta branch, was appointed for its defence. Field-pieces were placed on the most commanding heights, and in the intervals of the numerous sand-hills which cover the shore ; all of which were lined with musquetry ; the beach on either wing being flanked with cannon, and parties of cavalry held in readiness to advance.

The fire of the enemy was successively opened from their mortars and field-pieces, as the boats got within their reach, and as they approached to the shore, the excessive discharge of grape-shot and musquetry from behind the sand-hills seemed to threaten them with destruction, while the castle of Aboukir on the right flank maintained a constant and harassing discharge of large shot and shells ; but the ardour of our officers and men was not to be damped. No moment of hesitation intervened. The beach was arrived at, a footing obtained ; the troops advanced, and the enemy were forced to relinquish all the advantageous positions which they had held.

The boats returned without delay for the second division ; and before evening the whole army, with few exceptions, was landed, with such articles of provisions and stores as required the most immediate attention.

I refer

I refer to the general's report for the loss sustained by the army in this dangerous and difficult service. I inclose the casualties of the squadron and transports, and feel much satisfaction in conveying to their Lordships my full testimony to the merits of all the officers and men employed under my orders on this arduous occasion.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) KEITH.

No. V.

Letter from Admiral Lord Keith, K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Mediterranean, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated Aboukir Bay, March 16.

SIR,

The army had a sharp conflict with the enemy on the 13th, as they advanced towards Alexandria ; for the particulars of which I refer to the General's details. I inclose, for their Lordships information, an account of the loss suffered on that occasion by the detachment of seamen under the direction of Captain Sir Sidney Smith, and by the battalion of marines under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, both co-operating with the army on shore.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) KEITH.

Return of Seamen employed on Shore under the Orders of Captain Sir W. S. Smith, Killed and Wounded in the Action of the 13th March.

Total—5 seamen killed ; 1 officer, (Mr. Wright, midshipman of the Northumberland,) 19 seamen wounded.

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Return

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Return of Killed and Wounded in the Battalion of Marines, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, serving with the Army under the Orders of General Sir Ralph Abercromby, in the Action of the 13th of March.

Two officers, 22 rank and file, killed ; 4 officers, 2 serjeants, 2 drummers, 27 rank and file, wounded.—Total 59.

NAMES OF OFFICERS KILLED AND WOUNDED.

P. Hussey, first lieutenant, (rank in battalion, captain,) killed ; J. Linyee Shea, ditto, killed. W. Minto, captain, (rank in battalion, major,) wounded ; R. Ferkington, captain, wounded ; J. Parry, first lieutenant, wounded ; G. Peeble, second lieutenant, ditto.

A List of Officers and Seamen belonging to the Ships of War and Transports, Killed, Wounded, and Missing, in disembarking the Army in Aboukir Bay, the 8th of March.

Total—22 seamen killed ; 7 officers, 65 seamen, wounded ; 3 seamen missing.

NAMES OF OFFICERS WOUNDED.

Stately, Lieutenant J. Bray. *Europa*, Lieutenant G. Thomas. *Dolphin*, Lieutenant F. Collins. *Swiftsure*, Mr. J. Finchley, midshipman. *Charon*, R. Ogleby, master's mate. *Iphigenia*, J. Donnellan, midshipman. *Disaster*, E. Robinson, midshipman, since dead.

(Signed) KEITH.

Extract of a Letter from the Right Hon. Lord Keith, K. B. commanding his Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Mediterranean, to Evan Nepean, esq. dated March 18, 1801.

Aboukir Castle has capitulated. In the afternoon the Captain Bey arrived

rived with two ships of the line, four or five frigates and corvettes, and some small vessels of the country.

No. VI.

*Letter from the Honourable Major-General Hutchinson to the
Right Hon. H. Dundas.*

Head-Quarters, Camp, four Miles from Alexandria, April 5.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you, that, after the affair of the 13th of March, the army took a position about four miles from Alexandria, having a sandy plain in their front, the sea on their right, and the canal of Alexandria, at present dry, and the Lake of Aboukir, on their left. In this position we remained, without any material circumstance taking place till the 21st of March, when the enemy attacked us with nearly the whole of their collected force, amounting probably to eleven or twelve thousand men. Of fourteen demi-brigades of infantry, which the French have in this country, twelve appear to have been engaged, and all their cavalry, with the exception of one regiment.

The enemy made the following disposition of their army:—General Lanusse was on their left, with four demi-brigades of infantry, and a considerable body of cavalry, commanded by General Roize; Generals Friant and Rampon were in the centre, with five demi-brigades; General Regnier on the right, with two demi-brigades and two regiments of cavalry; General D'Estaing commanded the advanced guard, consisting of one demi-brigade, some light troops, and a detachment of cavalry.

The action commenced about an hour before day-light, by a false at-

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tack

attack on our left, which was under Major-General Craddock's command, where they were soon repulsed. The most vigorous efforts of the enemy were however directed against our right, which they used every possible exertion to turn. The attack on that point was begun with great impetuosity by the French infantry, sustained by a strong body of cavalry, who charged in column. They were received by our troops with equal ardour, and the utmost steadiness and discipline. The contest was unusually obstinate; the enemy were twice repulsed, and their cavalry were repeatedly mixed with our infantry. They at length retired, leaving a prodigious number of dead and wounded on the field.

While this was passing on the right, they attempted to penetrate our centre with a column of infantry, who were also repulsed, and obliged to retreat with loss. The French, during the whole of the action, refused their right. They pushed forward, however, a corps of light troops, supported by a body of infantry and cavalry to keep our left in check, which certainly was, at that time, the weakest part of our line.

We have taken about two hundred prisoners (not wounded); but it was impossible to pursue our victory, on account of our inferiority in cavalry, and because the French had lined the opposite hills with cannon, under which they retired. We also have suffered considerably; few more severe actions have ever been fought, considering the number engaged on both sides. We have sustained an irreparable loss in the person of our never-sufficiently-to-be-lamented Commander in Chief, Sir Ralph Abercromby, who was mortally wounded in the action, and died on the 28th of March. I believe he was wounded early, but he concealed his situation from those about him, and continued in the field giving his orders with that coolness and perspicuity which had ever marked his character,
till

till long after the action was over, when he fainted through weakness and loss of blood. Were it permitted for a soldier to regret any one who has fallen in the service of his country, I might be excused for lamenting him, more than any other person; but it is some consolation to those who tenderly loved him, that as his life was honourable, so was his death glorious. His memory will be recorded in the annals of his country—will be sacred to every British soldier, and embalmed in the recollection of a grateful posterity.

It is impossible for me to do justice to the zeal of the officers and to the gallantry of the soldiers of this army. The reserve, against whom the principal attack of the enemy was directed, conducted themselves with unexampled spirit. They resisted the impetuosity of the French infantry, and repulsed several charges of cavalry. Major-General Moore was wounded at their head, though not dangerously. I regret, however, the temporary absence from the army of this highly valuable and meritorious officer, whose counsel and co-operation would be so highly necessary to me at this moment. Brigadier-General Oakes was wounded nearly at the same time; and the army has been deprived of the service of an excellent officer. The 28th and 42d regiments acted in the most distinguished and brilliant manner. Colonel Paget, an officer of great promise, was wounded at the head of the former regiment: he has since, though not quite recovered, returned to his duty.

Brigadier-General Stuart and the foreign brigade supported the reserve with much promptness and spirit: it is but justice to this corps to say, that they have, on all occasions, endeavoured to emulate the zeal and spirit exhibited by the British troops, and have perfectly succeeded.

Major-

Major-General Ludlow deserves much approbation for his conduct, when the centre of the army was attacked : under his guidance the guards conducted themselves in the most cool, intrepid and soldier-like manner : they received very effectual support by a movement of the right of Major-General Coote's brigade. Brigadier-General Hope was wounded in the hand ; and the army has been deprived of the service of a most active, zealous, and judicious officer.

The loss of the enemy has been great ; it is calculated at upwards of 3000 killed, wounded, and taken prisoners. General Roize, who commanded the cavalry, which suffered considerably, was killed in the field. Generals Lanusse and Bodet are since dead of their wounds. I have been informed that several other general officers, whose names I do not know, have been either killed or wounded.

I cannot conclude this letter without solemnly assuring you, that, in the arduous contest in which we are at present engaged, his Majesty's troops in Egypt have faithfully discharged their duty to their country, and nobly upheld the fame of the British name and nation.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. H. HUTCHINSON.

Herewith I have the honour to inclose a list of the killed and wounded on the 21st of March.

Return of the Killed, Wounded, and Missing, of the Army under the Command of General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. near Alexandria, 21st March 1801.

Cavalry—11th light dragoons, 1 horse killed, 1 drummer, 2 rank and file wounded.

12th

12th ditto, 6 rank and file wounded. 26th ditto, 8 rank and file wounded. Homspech's ditto, 1 horse killed, 2 rank and file, 3 horses wounded. Royal Artillery, 14 rank and file killed; 5 officers, 40 rank and file wounded; 1 rank and file missing.

Brigade of Guards—1st battalion of the Coldstream, 7 rank and file killed; 1 serjeant, 58 rank and file wounded. 1st battalion of the 3d regiment, 1 officer, 3 serjeants, 38 rank and file killed; 3 officers, 8 serjeants, 148 rank and file wounded.

1st Brigade—2d battalion of royals, 9 rank and file killed; 4 officers, 1 serjeant, 68 rank and file wounded. 1st battalion of the 54th regiment, 1 rank and file killed; 9 rank and file wounded. 2d battalion of the 54th regiment, 1 officer, 3 rank and file killed; 2 officers, 39 rank and file wounded. 92d regiment, 3 rank and file killed; 2 officers, 37 rank and file wounded.

2d Brigade—8th regiment, 1 rank and file killed; 2 rank and file wounded. 13th regiment, 1 rank and file wounded. 18th regiment, 2 rank and file wounded. 90th regiment, 1 rank and file wounded.

3d Brigade—27th regiment, 1 rank and file killed; 5 rank and file wounded. 50th regiment, 1 rank and file killed; 4 officers, 2 serjeants, 35 rank and file wounded. 79th regiment, 1 serjeant killed; 1 officer, 2 serjeants, 18 rank and file wounded.

4th Brigade—Queen's, 1 officer, 3 serjeants, 7 rank and file wounded. 30th regiment, 4 rank and file killed; 2 officers, 3 serjeants, 21 rank and file wounded. 44th regiment, 1 rank and file killed; 1 officer, 1 serjeant, 14 rank and file wounded. 89th regiment, 2 rank and file killed; 2 officers, 1 serjeant, 7 rank and file wounded.

5th Brigade—Stuart's, 3 officers, 1 serjeant, 40 rank and file killed; 10 officers, 7 serjeants, 145 rank and file wounded; 13 rank and file missing. De Rolle's, 9 rank and file killed; 2 officers, 5 serjeants, 1 drummer, 51 rank and file wounded. 3 officers, 1 serjeant, 8 rank and file missing. Dillon's, 1 serjeant, 12 rank and file killed; 6 officers, 2 serjeants, 40 rank and file wounded.

Reserve.

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Reserve—23d regiment, 5 rank and file killed; 1 officer, 2 serjeants, 12 rank and file wounded. 28th regiment, 2 serjeants, 18 rank and file killed; 4 officers, 4 serjeants, 46 rank and file wounded; 4 rank and file missing. 40th flank companies, 4 rank and file killed; 1 officer, 2 rank and file wounded. 42d regiment, 4 officers, 48 rank and file killed; 8 officers, 6 serjeants, 247 rank and file wounded. 58th regiment, 1 officer, 1 serjeant, 1 rank and file killed; 2 officers, 19 rank and file wounded; 2 rank and file missing. Corsican rangers, 2 rank and file killed; 1 drummer, 4 rank and file wounded.

Total—10 officers, 9 serjeants, 224 rank and file, 2 horses, killed; 60 officers, 48 serjeants, 3 drummers, 1082 rank and file, 3 horses, wounded; 3 officers, 1 serjeant, 28 rank and file missing.

OFFICERS KILLED.

3d guards, Ensign Campbell; 42d regiment, Major Bisset, Lieutenants Colin Campbell, Robert Anderson, A. Stewart; 58th regiment, Lieutenant Jocelyn; Stuart's regiment, Colonel Dutens, Lieutenants Duvergier, Dejean; 2d battalion of the 54th foot, Captain J. Gibson.

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

Staff—His Excellency Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. Commander in Chief; Major-General Moore; Brigadier-General the Honourable John Hope (Adjutant General); Brigadier-General Oakes; Brigadier-General Lawson; Capt. Doyle (Brigade Major); Capt. St. Pern (ditto), since dead; Capt. Anderson (aid-de-camp to Major-General Moore).—3d guards, Captains Rooke, Ansley, Deare; Royals, Capt. J. C. Gardner; Lieutenants J. Gordon, J. M'Pherson, Charles Johnson. 2d battalion of the 54th regiment, Lieutenants Conror, Predam. 92d regiment, Capt. Cameron, Lieut. Mathison. 50th regiment, Capt. Ogilvy; Lieutenants Campbell, Tilsby; Ensign Rowe. 79th regiment, Lieut. Ross. Queen's regiment, Ensign Allman. 30th regiment, Capt. Smith; Lieut. James. 44th regiment, Lieut. Col. Ogilvie (since dead). 89th regiment, Capt. Blake, Lieut. Agnew. Stuart's regiment, Captains Misset, Mahony, Richardson; Lieutenants M'Carthy, Sutton, Hutton, Zeheuder, Boreg, Girard; Ensign O'Herman. De Rolle's

Rolle's regiment, Lieut. Mitzger; Adjutant La Ville. Dillon's regiment, Captains Dupont, Rinaud, D'Heral; Lieutenants Laury, D'Aville. 23d regiment, Lieut. Cook. 28th regiment, Lieut. Col. Paget; Lieutenants John Meachem, Hearn, Ford. 1st battalion 40th regiment, Lieut. Southwell. 42d regiment, Major Sterling; Capt. D. Stuart; Lieutenants Hamilton Row, A. M'Nicol, A. Donaldson, J. M. Sutherland, A. Grant, A. M. Cunningham, Fred. Campbell; Ensign M'Kenzie. 58th regiment, Lieutenants Curry and Toole. Royal artillery, Lieutenants Gamble, Campbell, Lawson, Burslem.

(Signed) JOHN ABERCROMBY, Dep. Adj. General.

N. B. One stand of colours and two field-pieces taken.

No. VII.

A Dispatch from Admiral Lord Keith, K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Mediterranean, to Evan Nepean, Esq. Secretary of the Admiralty, dated on Board his Majesty's Ship Fou-droyant, in the Bay of Aboukir, 1st of April 1801, of which the following is a Copy:

SIR,

I have very great concern in acquainting you, that in a desperate attack made upon our lines by the French army on the morning of the 21st ultimo, my gallant and respectable colleague, General Sir Ralph Abercromby, unfortunately received a wound, of which he died on board this ship on the 28th. It is unnecessary to say how much this calamity has been regretted by the army and by the fleet. Their Lordships will observe that the enemy were repulsed with very great loss. I enclose, for their information, a copy of Sir Sidney Smith's report of that sustained

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by the detachment of seamen serving under his orders; and have the pleasure of adding that his own wound has not been so material as to deprive me of his services. The marines were not engaged, having been, previously to the action, appointed to the duty of Aboukir Castle, and its vicinity.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) KEITH.

P. S. The Capitan Pacha arrived on the 26th ult. with three sail of the line and a body of troops; and on the following day a Turkish Vice-Admiral joined.

Return of Officers and Seamen employed on Shore under the Orders of Captain Sir William Sidney Smith, killed and wounded in an Action with the Enemy, on the 21st of March 1801.

Tigre, 1 officer, 1 seaman, wounded; total 2. *Swiftsure*, 1 officer, 4 seamen, wounded; total 5. *Ajax*, 2 seamen killed, 2 seamen wounded; total 4. *Northumberland*, 3 seamen wounded. *Kent*, 1 seaman killed, 3 seamen wounded; total 4. *Minotaur*, 1 officer killed, 5 seamen wounded; total 6. Total, 1 officer, 3 seamen, killed; 2 officers, 18 seamen, wounded.

NAME OF OFFICER KILLED.

Minotaur, Mr. Krebs, master's mate.

NAMES OF OFFICERS WOUNDED.

Tigre, Sir William Sidney Smith, Knt.; *Swiftsure*, Lieutenant Lewis Davis.

(Signed) KEITH.

No.

No. VIII.

Letter from the Hon. Lieutenant-General Sir J. Hely Hutchinson, K. B. to the Right Hon. H. Dundas, received at the Office of the Right Hon. Lord Hobart; as also the Copy of a Letter from Lord Elgin, addressed to the Right Hon. Lord Hawkesbury, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for the Foreign Department.

Camp before Alexandria, April 20, 1801.

SIR,

It is with great pleasure that I am to inform you of the success of a corps of Turks and British, under the command of Colonel Spencer. They were ordered from hence about ten days ago, for the purpose of forcing the enemy from the town and Castle of Rosetta, which commands the navigation of the Nile. This operation has perfectly succeeded. We are now masters of the western branch of that river, and of course have opened a communication with the Delta, from which we shall derive all necessary supplies, as the French have scarcely any troops there, and none capable of making a serious resistance.

The enemy had about 800 men at Rosetta, when they were attacked. They made but a feeble effort to sustain themselves, and retired to the right bank of the Nile, leaving a few men killed and prisoners. They left a garrison in the fort, against which our batteries opened on the 16th, and it surrendered on the 19th instant. The conditions are the same as were granted to the Castle of Aboukir.

I have many obligations to Colonel Spencer, for the zeal, activity, and military talents which he has displayed in the conduct of this important service;

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service ; and I beg leave to recommend him as a deserving and most excellent officer.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. H. HUTCHINSON, Major-General.

Right Hon. Henry Dundas, &c.

No. IX.

Letter from Lord Elgin to Lord Hawkesbury.

Constantinople, May 9, 1801.

MY LORD,

Mr. Morier having returned from Egypt, I have the satisfaction of being able to lay before your Lordship a far more particular account of the affairs and proceedings in that country than it has hitherto been in my power to communicate. He left the camp before Alexandria on the 22d ult.

At that time the enemy remained in their strong position upon the heights near the eastern walls of Alexandria: their number is about 6000 men. They were still in anxious expectation of receiving reinforcements, particularly that which had been announced to them as coming from Admiral Grantheaume.

The loss of the enemy, according to the numerous reports which had been collected, certainly exceeds 5000 men, and a great proportion of officers: four generals are known to have been killed. Every encouragement seems to have been given and held out to the French army to
ensure

ensure their utmost exertions. Among other things, they were taught to expect no quarter from the British. The prisoners agree, that in no part of this war had such hard fighting or such determined bravery ever been seen, as they have met with from our army in Egypt.

I presume that Sir Ralph Abercromby's absence from the camp, in consequence of his wounds, on the 21st of March, had created a momentary suspension of our operations; and the irreparable loss occasioned by his death must also necessarily have checked the prosecution of plans, in the formation and execution of which he had always borne so leading a part. The Capitan Pacha did not arrive in time to see Sir Ralph Abercromby; but it appears that General Hutchinson followed his Excellency's intention relative to the troops on board the Turkish fleet, by employing them against Rosetta; and accordingly directed Colonel Spencer, having under him a corps of about 800 British, to proceed with the Turks to that expedition. The town was evacuated without resistance. Some guns were then brought to bear upon the fort St. Julien, which commands the entrance of the river. The garrison of 368 men surrendered on the 19th ult.

Rahmanieh was still in the hands of the French. They had fortified it, both with a view to secure their communications from the upper part of the Delta, and Upper Egypt, whence they received their provisions.

Under these circumstances, General Hutchinson has very much strengthened his position between Aboukir and Alexandria, not only by a range of works in front, but particularly by opening the sluices which kept in the waters in the lake on their left; and if, as is supposed, this inundation shall extend over the whole of the plain to the east of the lake
Mareotis,

Mareotis, the communication between Alexandria and Rahmanieh, which is the enemy's nearest point, will be eight or nine days journey without water.

Having taken these measures, General Hutchinson was to transfer his head-quarters to Rosetta, on the 23d ult. to which place he had already sent forward a strong detachment, amounting to above four thousand British, including Colonel Spencer's corps; and he was immediately to proceed from thence, with nearly an equal number of the Capitan Pacha's troops, against Rahmanieh, where the French were understood to have assembled 3000 men.

On the other hand, advices had been received several days before from the Grand Vizier, dated at Belbeis, from which it appeared, that his Highness, reinforced by nearly five thousand men from Djazzar Pacha, had passed the Desert, and advanced so far towards Cairo, without meeting with opposition either at Salahich or at Belbeis. He had also detached a corps, which has taken possession of the town of Damietta, though the fort of Lesbia is still in the hands of the French. It is not expected that his Highness will experience any material resistance at the town of Cairo. And I find it is the determination of General Hutchinson to afford his Highness such aid as may be requisite towards the attacking the fortifications which the French occupy near to the town, if it is necessary to reduce them by force. General Hutchinson has further received a favourable letter from Murad Bey, saying he is ready to join us when we come into his neighbourhood.

I am happy to add, that our army are in the highest health and spirits. The climate and weather had hitherto been most propitious. The natives
had

had acquired the greatest degree of confidence from the proclamation issued by our army, and were continuing to bring in horses and provisions in great plenty. Nearly one thousand of our cavalry are now well mounted there; and we have still above eleven thousand infantry in the field. The utmost degree of unanimity prevails between the British and Turkish troops.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

ELGIN.

Right Hon. Lord Hawkesbury, &c.

No. X.

Dispatches from the Earl of Elgin and Major Holloway.

Imperial Ottoman Camp of the Grand Vizier, Benulbasser, May 20.

MY LORD,

I had the honour of addressing your Lordship on the 2d of May from Salahich, which place his Highness the Grand Vizier left the 7th, and the following day arrived at Belbeis, where the advanced corps of his army had been encamped for some time before.

On the 15th instant his Highness received intelligence that the enemy, had, early that morning, marched a considerable force from Cairo, on the road towards Belbeis, where his Highness was then encamped. In the evening, a further confirmation of this intelligence was brought, when the enemy was in full march. The Vizier, after dark, ordered Tahir Pacha, with three thousand cavalry, and three light field pieces, to advance to meet them, and if a favourable opportunity offered during the
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 obscurity

obscurity of the night, to attack ; if not, to impede their progress as much as possible. About ten o'clock at night they met, about three miles from camp, when each halted and lay on their arms during the night, and until eight o'clock in the morning, at which time Tahir Pacha commenced an attack : he was soon after reinforced by fifteen hundred cavalry. It was now found the enemy had come forward with about fourteen pieces of artillery, six hundred cavalry, and four thousand infantry. His Highness therefore ordered Méhémméd Pacha to move forward with five thousand men, cavalry and Albanian infantry, and nine light field pieces ; the enemy had eight pounders in the field. His Highness afterwards advanced himself, and took the command, which was attended with the happiest effect.

The enemy moved into a wood of date trees, where they were attacked by the cavalry and infantry with great spirit for three hours, when the enemy retired from the wood, taking position on the plain, their left to the wood, and forming a hollow square on the right. The Albanian infantry advanced to the edge of the wood, and in this situation galled them considerably ; and upon the Turkish cavalry threatening their right, they changed position, and attempted to gain the heights, in which they were prevented by a rapid movement of cavalry, who gained the summit. In this manœuvre they were annoyed by two guns, which were advanced by his Highness on the occasion. At this time the French commenced a decided retreat, and were driven beyond El Hanka, a distance not less than seven miles from the place of the first operations. The Grand Vizier, who had commanded his troops with great gallantry and prompt decision, then gave orders for them not to pursue any further. The loss on either side, for the time they were engaged, was but small. The Turks had about thirty killed and eighty wounded. The French, I think, had about
fifty

fifty killed, and one prisoner; the number of their wounded could not be ascertained, as they took them off the field.

The Turkish force engaged on this occasion did not at any time exceed nine thousand.

Whilst I was congratulating his Highness in the field of battle on the success of the day, we received additional satisfaction by the arrival of the intelligence of the capture of Fort Lesbia at Damietta, and two smaller forts depending on it, by a detachment from the Vizier's army. I had the honour of acquainting your Lordship, in my letter of the 2d of May, that his Highness intended sending a force against Damietta. This intention he carried into effect on the 6th, by ordering Ibrahim Pacha, with two thousand five hundred men, and five pieces of artillery, to march immediately for that purpose; and it appears by Ibrahim Pacha's report to the Vizier, that every arrangement had been made for the attack of Fort Lesbia on the morning of the 14th instant, when it was discovered that the fort was evacuated, and the garrison had retired.

I beg leave to inform your Lordship, that during the action of the 16th instant, myself and Major Hope of the Royal Artillery, were in the field with the Grand Vizier, Captain Lacey of the Royal Engineers, with Méhémmed Pacha, and Captain Leake, of the Royal Artillery, with Tahir Pacha, to render every assistance in our power.

The combined forces under Major-General Hutchinson and the Capitan Pacha are about five hours distance in the Delta, but are expected here in a day or two. I received a letter from the General this morning, who

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informs

informs me, that he has taken a convoy of five hundred and fifty camels, and six hundred French prisoners.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES HOLLOWAY, Major Commandant, &c.

Constantinople, June 21.

MY LORD,

I have the most sincere satisfaction in forwarding to your Lordship the inclosed dispatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Holloway.

The modest and unassuming manner in which this deserving officer has mentioned himself and the British under his orders, imposes upon me the obligation of stating to your Lordship what I had learnt by their private communication to me from Jaffa and Gaza; that as soon as the determination was formed for the Vizier to advance into Egypt, Lieutenant-Colonel Holloway proposed that distribution of the Turkish army, and that order of march, which have effectually ensured this unlooked-for success over the French. The advanced guard was composed of a select body of cavalry under Tahir Pacha, and of Albanian infantry under Méhémet Pacha; the first accompanied by Captain Leake, the second by Captain Lacey, each receiving their orders from Colonel Holloway, who remained near the person of the Vizier.

It is by this well-combined disposition, by the endeavours which were strenuously exercised to prevail upon this corps to disembarass themselves of their superfluous attendants, and by giving confidence to the Turks in their own means, that Colonel Holloway has been enabled to bring these troops to keep in check, during many hours, a French army of superior force—

force—to counteract its plans—to attack it—to seize every advantage of its positions and of ground, and, after manœuvring with science during seven hours, to repulse it with loss, and gain a complete victory. In the account which the Vizier has sent of this action to the Porte, his Highness speaks in the highest terms of the service done by the artillery, which Major Hope is well known to be so very capable of directing.

(Signed) ELGIN.

Right Hon. Lord Hawkesbury, &c. &c.

No. XI.

A Dispatch from Lieutenant-General the Honourable Sir John Hely Hutchinson, K. B. commanding his Majesty's Forces in Egypt.

Head Quarters, Camp near Alkam, June 1.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that the French abandoned the position of El-Aft, on the 7th of May, which we occupied the same evening, and on the 9th we advanced to Rahmanieh, where the French were posted with upwards of three thousand infantry, and eight hundred cavalry. We at first imagined that they might have endeavoured to have maintained that position, but our corps on the eastern bank of the Nile having got into their rear, took the fort of Rahmanieh in reverse, which probably induced the enemy to retire in the night between the 9th and 10th, leaving a garrison in the fort, which surrendered in the morning, amounting to one hundred and ten men, commanded by a Chef de Brigade; we also took, the same day, about fifty cavalry, and three officers, coming from Alexandria.

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As the enemy retired towards Caïro, it became necessary to follow them, in order to cover the army of the Grand Vizier, and to secure a junction with the expected reinforcement from India.

Nothing happened of any importance until the 14th, when we fell in with a valuable convoy of germes on the Nile: they had come from Cairo down the Canal of Menouff, which joins the Damietta and Rosetta branches of the river. From this circumstance they knew nothing of the retreat of General La Grange from Rahmanieh. About one hundred and fifty prisoners fell into our hands, and several heavy guns, some of them intended for the defence of Alexandria. The convoy in itself was very valuable, and is a great loss to the enemy. We found on board all kinds of cloathing, wine, spirits, &c. &c. and about five thousand pounds in money.

On the 17th, when encamped at Alkam, we were informed by the Arabs that a considerable body of French, coming from Alexandria, were advancing towards the Nile, near the spot where the boats of the Capitan Pacha then were. The cavalry were immediately ordered out, with two pieces of cannon, under the command of Brigadier-General Doyle, supported by his brigade of infantry. Colonel Cavalier, who commanded the French convoy, as soon as he perceived the boats of the Capitan Pacha, suspected that our army must be near, and therefore retired into the Desert, where we followed him. The cavalry came up with him, after a march of about three hours. A flag of truce was sent into them by Major Wilson of the Homspech, requiring them to surrender, on condition that their private property should be respected, and that they should be sent to France by the first convenient opportunity. With these terms they complied, and laid down their arms: they amounted, in all, to about six hun-

dred men, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, together with a considerable portion of the dromedary corps, one four-pounder, and five hundred and fifty camels. The prisoners taken are all Frenchmen, and of the best troops they had in Egypt.

On the 17th of May the enemy retired from the Fort of Lesbia, on the Damietta branch, and formed a junction with about two hundred men, which they had at Burlos; this fort they also evacuated, and embarked in five small vessels, four of which have been taken and carried into Aboukir Bay; the fifth endeavoured to escape towards Cyprus, but a Turkish frigate was left in chace of her, so that it is more than probable she has shared the same fate.

The garrisons of the two forts consisted of about seven hundred men; so that we have taken in all, from the 9th to the 20th, near sixteen hundred men, which makes a considerable diminution of the enemy's force in this country.

The French made a most extraordinary rapid march from Rahmanieh to Gizah, where they arrived on the 13th, and immediately crossed the river to Boulac.

On the 15th they marched to attack the Grand Vizier's army. His Highness anticipated their intention, and made a forward movement with a considerable body of cavalry on the night between the 15th and 16th. The armies remained for some hours in presence of each other, when the Ottoman troops attacked at about eight o'clock in the morning, and after an action of seven hours, the French retired, having lost between three and four hundred men killed and wounded. They were nearly the same people

people who had retreated from Rahmanieh, and were about four thousand, or four thousand five hundred men.

I congratulate your Lordship upon the event of this very important action. I have also much pleasure in informing you, that the Mamelukes, under the orders of Osman Bey, (successor of Murad Bey,) have joined us to the amount of about fifteen hundred cavalry, inferior certainly to none in the world. I am sanguine enough to hope, that the most serious good effects will arise from this junction, as they have a most intimate knowledge of the country, and the greatest influence amongst the inhabitants.

I enclose you the capitulation of the Fort of Rahmanieh, and also a return of the killed and wounded on the 9th of May, which I rejoice has been so very inconsiderable.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. HELY HUTCHINSON.

To the Right Hon. Lord Hobart.

Fort of Rahmanieh, May 10.

The garrison of the Fort of Rahmanieh will surrender to the Ottoman and British forces on the following conditions:

I. The officers shall wear their swords, and retain their effects. They, as well as the soldiers, shall be prisoners of war.—Granted.

II. The garrison shall be sent back to France, and shall not serve against the King of England, nor against his Allies, until exchanged conformably to the cartel between the two nations.—Granted.

III. The

III. The wounded are placed under the protection of British humanity.

(Signed) LA CROIX, Chef de Brigade.

CAPITAN PACHA.

J. HELY HUTCHINSON, Major-General, commanding in Chief.

JAMES STEVENSON, Captain Royal Navy.

Rahmanieh, May 9.

Return of the Killed and Wounded of the Army under the Command of the Honourable Major-General Hutchinson.

11th light dragoons, 1 horse killed; 1 serjeant, 1 rank and file, 4 horses wounded. 12th ditto, 6 horses killed. 26th ditto, 2 horses killed; 1 officer wounded. Royal Artillery, 1 horse killed; 2 officers, 3 rank and file, 1 horse wounded. Royals, 3 rank and file wounded. 8th foot, 2 rank and file wounded. 58th foot, 1 rank and file wounded. 79th foot, 1 officer, 1 rank and file wounded. 89th foot, 1 drummer, 4 rank and file, killed; 1 drummer, 7 rank and file, wounded.

Total—1 drummer, 4 rank and file, 10 horses, killed; 4 officers, 1 serjeant, 1 drummer, 18 rank and file, 5 horses, wounded.

NAMES OF OFFICERS WOUNDED.

26th light dragoons, Captain King. Royal Artillery, Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson; Captain Adye. 79th foot, Captain Macdouall.

(Signed) JOHN ABERCROMBY, Dep. Adj.-General.

Dispatches from Lieutenant-General the Honourable Sir John Hely Hutchinson, K. B.

Head Quarters, Camp before Gizah, 21st June 1801.

MY LORD,

I have nothing new or of very essential import to communicate, but I

avail myself of the opportunity of a messenger going to Constantinople, to inform you, that we are now encamped near Gizah, which is on the opposite side of the river to Cairo. We mean to erect batteries in the course of twenty-four hours : it cannot hold out long, as it is a very weak place; but it covers a bridge of communication which the French have over the Nile, and it is therefore essential to us to have it in our possession. This operation cannot last above four or five days at most; I then mean to cross the river and join the army of the Grand Vizier, who is at present encamped very near Cairo; we shall then besiege the place, which is garrisoned by four or five thousand French, but their works are very extended, and would require a much greater number of men to defend them. Great delays have been occasioned in this operation from the low state of the river, and from the bar of the Nile at Rosetta, which is frequently impassable for ten days together, so that our march has been much retarded. The difficulty of procuring provisions for the army, and the obstacles which we encountered in bringing the heavy artillery up the river, (which has not yet been entirely accomplished,) have been very great. However, we have now a sufficiency to begin the siege.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. H. HUTCHINSON.

To the Right Hon. Lord Hobart.

Head Quarters, Camp before Gizah, 29th June 1801.

MY LORD,

The combined armies advanced on both sides of the river on the 21st instant. The British troops, and those of his Highness the Capitan Pacha, invested Gizah on the left bank of the Nile, whilst the army of his Highness the Grand Vizier moved forward, and took a position nearly within cannon-shot of Cairo. On the 22d, in the morning, the enemy sent out a flag

a flag of truce, and informed me, that they wished to treat for the evacuation of Cairo, and the forts thereunto belonging, upon certain conditions. After a negotiation of several days, which was conducted by Brigadier-General Hope with much judgment and ability, they agreed to surrender the town and forts on the conditions which I have the honour to enclose.

We took possession of the gate of Gizah at five o'clock yesterday evening, and also of the Fort Sulkoski, on the Cairo side of the river: hostages have been mutually exchanged, and the final evacuation will take place in about ten days.

I should suppose that there are near six thousand troops of all kinds in the town; but I speak without a perfect knowledge on the subject, as I have not yet received any returns.

This has been a long and arduous service; the troops, from the great heat of the weather, the difficulty of the navigation of the river, and the entire want of roads in the country, have suffered a considerable degree of fatigue, but both men and officers have submitted to it with the greatest patience, and have manifested a zeal for the honour of his Majesty's arms that is above all panegyric; the conduct of the soldiers has been orderly and exemplary; and a discipline has been preserved, which would have done honour to any troops.

I am extremely obliged to Lieutenant-Colonel Anstruther, quartermaster-general, for the great zeal and ability which he has shewn, under very difficult circumstances, in forwarding the public service. From Generals Craddock and Doyle, who were the general officers employed immediately

mediately under my orders, I have derived the greatest assistance, and I beg leave to recommend them as highly deserving of his Majesty's favour.

The exertions of Captain Stevenson of the navy have been extremely laborious and constant during this long march; they have done every thing that was possible to forward our supplies: and indeed, without their powerful aid, it would have been impossible to have proceeded. Your Lordship will recollect, that the river is extremely low at this season of the year, the mouth of the Nile impassable for days together, and the distance from Rosetta to Cairo between one hundred and sixty and one hundred and seventy miles. Captain Stevenson has been ably supported by Captains Morrison, Curry, and Hillyar, who were employed under him.—The service in which they have been engaged has not been a brilliant one, but I hope it will be recollected that it has been most useful, and has required constant vigilance and attention; it has lasted now for many weeks; the labour has been excessive, and the fatigue greater than I can express.

This dispatch will be delivered to you by my aid-de-camp Major Montresor, who has been in the most intimate habits of confidence with me since my arrival in Egypt, and will be able to give your Lordship a most perfect account of the situation of affairs in this country. I beg leave to recommend him to your Lordship's protection as an officer of merit, and highly deserving of his Majesty's favour.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. H. HUTCHINSON, Lieut. Gen.

To the Right Hon. Lord Hobart, &c. &c.

No. XIII.

No. XIII.

*Letter from the Hon. Lieutenant-General Hutchinson to the Right
Hon. Lord Hobart,*

*Dated Head-Quarters, Camp before Alexandria,
Aug. 19, 1801.*

MY LORD,

The last division of the French troops who surrendered at Cairo, sailed from the Bay of Aboukir a few days ago. There have been embarked in all thirteen thousand five hundred persons. The garrison of Cairo consisted of about eight thousand troops of all descriptions, fit for duty, not including one thousand sick, and a considerable number of invalids. The total amounts to near ten thousand soldiers, amongst whom there was a very small proportion of Greeks and Copts, not more than four or five hundred men: the remainder were all French. The other persons embarked were followers of the army, and attached to it in various civil capacities.

Major-General Craddock having been confined at Cairo by illness, I entrusted the command of the troops to Major-General Moore, who, during a long march of a very novel and critical nature, displayed much judgment, and conducted himself in the most able and judicious manner. Notwithstanding the mixture of Turks, British, and French, the utmost regularity was preserved, and no one disagreeable circumstance ever took place. My presence at Cairo was rendered indispensably necessary, by some arrangements which I was obliged to make with his Highness the Grand Vizier.

Major-General Baird, after having struggled through many difficulties in passing the Desert, and from want of boats to descend the Nile, has at length arrived at Cairo with the greatest part of the troops under his command, and I imagine he will reach Rosetta in the course of a few days: he has been directed to detach a certain number of troops to Damietta, and to leave a garrison at Gizah.

We two days ago commenced our operations against Alexandria: as yet no event of any consequence has taken place: we have lost a few men, and taken a few prisoners.

Major-General Coote has been detached with a considerable corps to the westward, in order to invest the town completely on that side, and to cut off the communication of the enemy with the Arabs, who have been in the habit of supplying them with small quantities of cattle and other kinds of fresh provisions. General Coote's first operations will be directed against Marabout, a castle on an island at the entrance of the old harbour of Alexandria.

I cannot conclude this letter without stating to your Lordship the many obligations I have to Lord Keith and the navy, for the great exertions they have used in forwarding to us the necessary supplies, and from the fatigue they have undergone in the late embarkation of a considerable number of troops and stores, which were embarked on the new Lake, and proceeded to the westward, under the orders of Major-General Coote.

The utmost dispatch has also been used in sending the French troops
lately

lately captured to France; which, in our present position, was a service of the most essential consequence.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. HELY HUTCHINSON, Lieut. General.

To the Right Hon. Lord Hobart.

Extract of a Letter from Lieutenant-General the Hon. Sir John Hely Hutchinson, K. B. to the Right Hon. Lord Hobart.

Head-Quarters, Camp before Alexandria, Aug. 19.

I WAS honoured with your lordship's dispatches of the 19th May, at Cairo, where I remained to settle some essential business with his Highness the Grand Vizier, on the subject of the Mamelukes: I have put their affairs in a train of negociation, and hope to bring them to a fortunate issue.

The siege of Alexandria will probably be attended with many difficulties; the works towards the east side, where we are encamped, are prodigiously strong, and can hardly be approached on account of the narrowness of the space between the lake and the sea, and the nature of the ground: towards the west the works are not so strong, but however the difficulties in approaching them are also numerous: the corps there is completely in the desert, the communication with us, (by whom they must be supplied with every thing,) is tedious, and the boats employed have a most severe duty to perform; General Coote has, however, been so fortunate as to find water: on the whole, I cannot flatter myself that Alexandria will be in our possession in a short time, unless some event takes place, of which we are not at present aware.

The reinforcements from England, Minorca, and Malta are all arrived, except the 48th regiment from the latter place: they are very fine troops, and in a perfect state of health, order, and discipline.

No. XIV.

*Letter from the Right Hon. Lord Keith, Admiral of the Blue, &c. to
Evan Nepean, Esq.*

Foudroyant, Bay of Aboukir, Sept. 2, 1801.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour and satisfaction of acquainting you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the important object of this expedition is fully accomplished; a capitulation (of which a copy is enclosed) has been this day signed, providing for the delivery to the allies, to-morrow, of the enemy's entrenched camp on the eastern side of Alexandria, and the fort Triangulaire, and the other important posts on the western side; and for that of the town itself, the public effects, and the shipping in the harbour, at the expiration of ten days, or sooner, if the enemy's troops can be sooner embarked. As soon as I can obtain returns of the ships and effects, they shall be transmitted to you. The merchant vessels are very numerous, and one old Venetian ship of the line, with the French frigates *Egyptienne*, *Justice*, and *Régénérée*, and some corvettes, are known to be in the port.

Their Lordships will not fail to have observed, from my former details, the meritorious conduct of the officers and men who have been from time to time employed on the various duties which the debarkation of the army
and

and a co-operation of them has required. Though opportunities for brilliant exertion have been few since the 8th of March, the desire for participating in it has been unremitted. But the nature of this expedition has demanded from most of the officers and seamen of the fleet, and particularly from those of the troop-ships, bomb-vessels, and transports, the endurance of labour, fatigue, and privation far beyond what I have witnessed before, and which I verily believe to have exceeded all former example; and it has been encountered and surmounted with a degree of resolution and perseverance which merits my highest praise, and gives both officers and men a just claim to the protection of their Lordships, and the approbation of their country. The number of officers to whom I owe this tribute of approbation, does not admit of my mentioning them by name, but most of the captains of the troop-ships have been employed in the superintendence of these duties, and I have had repeated and urgent offers of voluntary service from all. The agents for transports have conducted themselves with laudable diligence and activity in the service of the several departments to which they were attached, and displayed the greatest exertion and ability in overcoming the numerous difficulties with which they had to contend.

The captains and commanders of the ships appointed for guarding the port, have executed that tedious and anxious duty with diligence and success. During my absence from the squadron, the blockade had been conducted much to my satisfaction, by Rear-Admiral Sir R. Bickerton; and justice requires me to mention, that, when I was with the squadron, Captain Wilson, of the *Trusty*, was unwearied in his attention to the direction of all the duties in this bay.

The Capitan Pacha has uniformly manifested the most anxious desire

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of contributing, by every means in his power, to the promotion of the service. Having been generally on shore with his troops, the ships have been submitted, by his orders, to my direction, and the officers have paid the most respectful attention to the instructions they have received from me.

Captain Sir Sidney Smith, who has served with such distinguished reputation in this country, having applied to be the bearer of the dispatches announcing the expulsion of the enemy, I have complied with his request; and I beg to refer their Lordships to that active and intelligent officer for any particular information relative to this or other parts of this country, on which he has had opportunities of making remarks.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

KZITH.

No. XV.

Letters from Major-General Sir Eyre Coote to Lieutenant-General Sir John Hely Hutchinson, K. B.

Camp West of Alexandria, Aug. 23.

SIR,

CAPTAIN Cochrane, with seven sloops of war, having entered into the western harbour of Alexandria, on the evening of the 21st inst. and anchored on my left flank, I immediately determined to move forward, and take as advanced a position near the town of Alexandria as prudence and security would permit.

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The necessary arrangements having been made in the morning of the 22d, the troops advanced against the enemy, who was strongly posted upon a ridge of high hills, having his right flank secured by two heavy guns, and his left by two batteries containing three more, with many field pieces placed in the intervals of his line.

The army moved through the sand-hills in three columns, the guards forming two upon the right near the lake, and Major-General Ludlow's brigade the third upon the left, having the first battalion of the 27th regiment in advance; M. G. Finch's brigade composed a reserve, and was destined to give its support wherever it might be required.

In this manner, having our field artillery with the advanced guard, the troops continued to move forward with the greatest coolness and regularity, under a very heavy fire of cannon and small arms, forcing the enemy to retreat constantly before them, and driving them to their present position within the walls of Alexandria.

Major-Generals Ludlow, Earl of Cavan and Finch, upon this, as upon all other occasions, have given me all possible support, and deserves every commendation for the precision and regularity with which they led on their respective columns.

The exertions of the captains commanding the ships of war upon our left, and of the officers commanding the gun-boats upon our right, were attended with the best effect; their continued and unremitting fire kept the enemy in check.

To Captain Cochrane I feel extremely obliged, for his zeal and constant

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stant readiness to afford every assistance in his power. Captain Stevenson, who commanded the gun-boats upon the lake, also calls for my earnest approbation of his conduct.

Permit me, Sir, to repeat to you the intrepid and gallant behaviour of the whole of the troops during the affair of yesterday, which lasted from six until ten o'clock in the morning. Their bravery was only equalled by the cool and regular manner in which they advanced under a severe and heavy cannonade. Happy am I to add, that our loss is only trifling, when compared to the advantages we have gained, and the difficulties we had to surmount, in a country, which, at every step, afforded the enemy the means of making the most desperate resistance.

The loss of the enemy must have been considerably greater than ours. It is impossible for me to ascertain the numbers. Seven pieces of heavy ordnance were left behind by the French in the hurry of their retreat, and have fallen into our hands.

I feel much indebted to Lieutenant-Colonel Duncan, Quarter-Master-General, for his judicious arrangements, and for his conduct during the whole of yesterday; he deserves my sincere thanks.

Inclosed I have the honour to transmit a return of the killed and wounded, &c.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) EYRE COOTE, Major-General.

(A true Copy.) JAMES KEMPT, Lieut.-Col. and Sec.

To Lieutenant-General the Hon. Sir J.

Hely Hutchinson, &c. &c. &c.

Camp,

Camp, West of Alexandria, Aug. 23.

SIR,

THE speedy and fortunate reduction of that post, so important to our fleets, was, I am happy to say, effected without any loss on our side, and calls upon me to lay before you the unremitting zeal and attention of Lieutenant-Colonel Darby, who, with the first battalion of the 54th regiment, covered the attack; the very judicious manner in which he posted the light company of that corps, who, by being placed on an adjoining rock, silenced the guns by their musquetry, greatly accelerated the fall of the fort.

I also feel myself indebted for the effectual exertions of Major Cookson, of the royal artillery, and for the prompt arrangements of Captain Ford, the commanding engineer.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) EYRE COOTE, Major-General.

Camp, West of Alexandria, Aug. 26, 1801.

SIR,

BEING anxious to push my piquets upon the left as far as possible towards the enemy's advanced work, the redoubt de Bain, I directed Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, with the first battalion of the 20th regiment, assisted with a small detachment of the 26th light dragoons, commanded by Lieutenant Kelly, to attack and drive in the French outposts upon the right of their position. He was to be supported by a battalion of infantry, disposed for that purpose on the sand hills.

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Soon after dark last night, Lieutenant-Colonel Smith commenced the attack, by turning the left of the enemy's piquets, and scouring the hills as he advanced.

The cool and spirited conduct of that officer, and the corps under his command, as also the detachment of the 26th dragoons, is well deserving of praise; not a man attempted to load, and the whole was effected by the bayonet. The loss of the enemy in this affair amounted to upwards of one hundred men, killed, wounded, and taken; of the latter I inclose the return.

This service was performed on our side with the loss of only three men slightly wounded; and has placed me in a situation to erect a battery within about 600 yards of redoubt de Bain.

The enemy, however, extremely exasperated at our success, made several attempts to regain the ground he had lost: with this view he kept up a very heavy fire of cannon and musquetry for about an hour; when, finding all his endeavours ineffectual, he retired, leaving us peaceful possessors of the advantage we had gained in the early part of the night.

Inclosed is a return of our loss in the latter part of the affair.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

EYRE COOTE, Major-General.

To Lieutenant-General the Hon. Sir

J. Hely Hutchinson, &c.

Return

Return of the Killed, Wounded, and Missing of the Army under the Command of Lieutenant-General Sir John Hely Hutchinson, K. B. at the Siege of Alexandria.

Camp, August 29, 1801.

Aug. 17, 1801. Driving in the enemy's advanced posts.—30th foot, 3 rank and file killed; 1 officer, 2 serjeants, 22 rank and file wounded. 50th foot, 1 rank and file wounded. 92d foot, 3 rank and file wounded. Stuart's, 1 rank and file wounded. Antient Irish fencibles, 1 rank and file killed. Rifle corps, 5 rank and file killed; 1 officer, 1 serjeant, 12 rank and file wounded.

Total.—9 rank and file killed; 2 officers, 3 serjeants, 39 rank and file wounded.

RANK AND NAMES OF OFFICERS WOUNDED.

30th regiment, Lieutenant Mansergh. Rifle corps, Ensign Tramlach.

Aug. 22, 1801. Major-General Coote's corps, advancing to blockade the western side of Alexandria.—Artillery, 1 rank and file killed; 3 rank and file wounded. Coldstream guards, first battalion, 2 rank and file wounded. 3d regiment of guards, first battalion, 5 rank and file wounded. 25th foot, 1 officer, 4 rank and file wounded. 26th foot, 1 rank and file wounded. 27th foot, first battalion, 7 rank and file wounded. 27th foot, second battalion, 2 rank and file wounded. 54th foot, second battalion, 2 rank and file killed; 7 rank and file wounded. Rifle corps, 1 serjeant, 9 rank and file wounded.

Total.—3 rank and file killed; 1 officer, 1 serjeant, 40 rank and file wounded.

OFFICER WOUNDED.

25th foot, Lieutenant Hawkins.

N. B. 2 horses killed.

Aug. 23,

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Aug. 23, 1801. A false alarm.—30th foot, 1 rank and file killed; 1 rank and file wounded.

Aug. 25, 1801. In an affair at the advanced posts of the western division of the army.—26th light dragoons, 1 horse killed; 1 officer, 2 rank and file, wounded. 3d guards, 1 rank and file wounded. 20th foot, first battalion, 2 rank and file wounded. 20th foot, second battalion, 1 rank and file wounded. 24th foot, 4 rank and file wounded. 27th foot, first battalion, 1 drummer, 1 rank and file wounded. 27th foot, second battalion, 7 rank and file wounded. 54th foot, first battalion, 1 rank and file wounded. 54th foot, second battalion, 2 officers, 6 rank and file, wounded. Ancient Irish, 1 rank and file wounded. Rifle corps, 7 rank and file wounded.

Total.—1 horse killed; 3 officers, 1 drummer, 33 rank and file, wounded.

RANK AND NAMES OF OFFICERS WOUNDED.

26th light dragoons, Lieutenant Kelly. 54th foot, second battalion, Lieutenant Samuel Predam, and Lieutenant Aylmer, slightly.

N. B. Lieutenant Davids, of the royal artillery, wounded on the 26th of June. On duty in front of the lines.

General total.—13 rank and file, 3 horses, killed; 6 officers, 4 serjeants, 1 drummer, 113 rank and file, wounded.

(Signed) JOHN ABERCROMBY, Adjutant-General.

Letter from the Right Hon. Lord Keith, K. B. Admiral of the Blue, &c. to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated Foudroyant, off Alexandria, Aug. 27.

SIR,

My letter of the 5th inst. acquainted you, for the information of their Lordships, that the embarkation of General Belliard's corps was carrying
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into execution with all possible dispatch ; but, on account of the difficulty of getting forward the immense quantity of baggage that they brought with them from Cairo, the operation was protracted till the 8th. The ships of war, as well as the transports, however, were directed to proceed by divisions. The *Braakel*, with the first division, sailed on the 4th ; the *Inflexible*, *Dolphin*, and *Ulysses*, with the second, on the 6th ; and the *Experiment* and *Pallas*, with the last, on the 10th, carrying with them between thirteen and fourteen thousand individuals of all descriptions.

The army from Cairo moved on forthwith to the camp before Alexandria ; and the General, who did me the honour of spending some days with me while the embarkation of the French was going on, resolved on transporting by the Mareotis, to the westward of Alexandria, a corps of about five thousand men, under the orders of Major-General Coote, to divide the enemy's force and attention, to invest the town closely on that side, and cut off all farther hope of reinforcement or supplies by land. On the 12th, I proceeded with Lieutenant-Colonel Anstruther, the Quarter-Master-General, to examine the enemy's position on the side of the lake, and the strength of the flotilla that they had assembled there ; and having ascertained that their armed force could be easily subdued, and that a debarkation could be effected with little or no difficulty, the General determined to carry the measure into immediate effect. To secure the landing from interruption, Captain Stevenson, of the *Europa*, who is continued in the command of the flotilla, was forthwith directed to take a station in front of the gun-boats and armed boats which the enemy had assembled on the lake, and drawn up in a line, under the batteries of protection thrown up for their defence, to keep them in check till they could be seized or destroyed. On the evening of the 16th, all
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the boats of the ships of war and transports in this bay were assembled in the Mareotis, with as many germes as could be collected from the Nile, for the purpose of receiving the troops, who were embarked in the night, and landed without opposition the next morning, under the superintendence of Captain Elphinstone, considerably further to the westward than was intended, the wind not admitting of the boats reaching the shore nearer to the town. The enemy seeing no prospect left of saving their armed boats, set fire to them, and blew them all up in the course of this and the following day, except two or three which had fallen into our hands; whilst the landing was carrying into effect, Captain Sir William Sidney Smith, of the *Tigre*, was directed with some sloops of war and armed boats to make a demonstration of attack upon the town.

On the night of the 17th, Major-General Coote was enabled to establish batteries against Marabout, a small fortified island that protects the entrance into the great harbour of Alexandria, on the western side, and distant from the town about seven or eight miles, which, for many reasons, it was important to possess. Rear Admiral Sir Richard Bickerton, having the command of the squadron blockading the port, directed armed launches from the ships to co-operate with the troops, and the garrison, consisting of near 200 men, unequal to farther resistance, surrendered as prisoners of war on the evening of the 21st; Mr. Hull, midshipman, and one seaman, of the *Ajax*, were killed on this service, and two seamen of the *Northumberland* wounded.

On the afternoon of the same day, the Rear-Admiral ordered the *Cynthia*, *Port Mahon*, *Victorieuse*, and *Bon Citoyenne*, with three Turkish corvettes, to proceed into the harbour under the direction of the Honourable Captain Cochrane of the *Ajax* (a channel having been previously

viously surveyed with great industry and precision by Lieutenant Withers of the *Kent*); and on the morning of the 22d, Major-General Coote's detachment moved forward four or five miles on the narrow isthmus leading to the town, formed by the Mareotis or inundation on the south side, and the harbour on the north; Captain Stevenson, with the gun vessels on the lake covering the right flank, and Captain Cochrane, with the sloops of war and armed boats, protecting their left. The position which the Major-General took up, and that occupied by our little squadron, which has been since reinforced by the *Diana*, completed the blockade of the town. The Rear-Admiral gives great commendation to the Honourable Captain Cochrane, for the zealous and judicious manner in which he executed the service entrusted to him. Soon after our ships entered the harbour, the enemy sunk several vessels, between our advanced ships and their vessels in the port, to obstruct our further progress to the eastward, and moved their frigates and corvettes from Fig Tree Point close up to the town.

General Menou finding himself closely pressed on the eastward of the town by the Commander in Chief, who had carried some of the enemy's important redoubts, and established strong batteries against their entrenched lines, and on the western side by Major-General Coote, who had, during the preceding night, driven in several of their out-posts, and advanced close up to an important position which the enemy seemed conscious of being unable to defend; sent out, on the evening of the 26th, proposals for an armistice of three days to arrange terms of capitulation, which I have no doubt will soon terminate in the surrender of the town.

I have the honour to be, Sir, &c.

(Signed)

KEITH.

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OFFICIAL PAPERS.

No. XVII.

*To the Right Honourable Lord Hobart.**Dated Head-Quarters, Camp before Alexandria, Sept. 5, 1801.*

MY LORD,

I HAVE now the satisfaction to inform your Lordship, that the fort and town of Alexandria have surrendered to his Majesty's troops, who, on the 2d instant, took possession of the entrenched camp, the heights above Pompey's Pillar, the redoubt de Bain, and the fort Triangular. By the capitulation the garrison are to be embarked for France in the course of ten days, provided the shipping is in a state of preparation to receive them.

The operations against the enemy's works commenced on the 17th of August.

Major-General Coote embarked with a strong corps on the inundation in the night between the 16th and 17th of August. He effected his landing to the westward of Alexandria with little or no opposition, and immediately invested the strong castle of Marabout, situated at the entrance of the western harbour of Alexandria.

On the east side of the town, two attacks were made to get possession of some heights in front of the entrenched position of the enemy. I entrusted the conduct of the attack against their right to Major-General Craddock, and that against their left to Major-General Moore. Those two officers perfectly executed my intentions, and performed the service committed to their care with much precision and ability. The action

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was neither obstinate nor severe, and our loss is but small ; but it afforded one more opportunity to display the promptness of British officers, and the heroism of British soldiers. A part of General Doyle's brigade, the 30th regiment (but under the immediate command of Colonel Spencer), had taken possession of a hill in front of the enemy's right. General Menou, who was in person in that part of the French intrenched camp, directly opposite to our post, ordered about six hundred men to make a sortie, to drive us from our position. The enemy advanced in column with fixed bayonets and without firing a shot, till they got very close to the 30th regiment, to whom Colonel Spencer gave an immediate order to charge, though they did not consist of more than two hundred men ; he was obeyed with a spirit and a determination worthy the highest panegyric. The enemy were driven back to their intrenchments in the greatest confusion ; they had many killed and wounded, and several taken prisoners.

On the night between the 18th and 19th, Major-General Coote opened batteries against the castle of Marabout ; an attack was also made from the sea by several Turkish corvettes, and the launches and boats of the fleet, under the guidance of the Honourable Captain Cochrane : great perseverance and exertions were required to get up heavy guns through a difficult and almost impracticable country ; but the troops executed this painful and arduous service with such zeal and continued firmness, that the fort capitulated in the night of the 21st ; the garrison consisted of about one hundred and eighty men, and were commanded by a Chef de Brigade.

On the morning of the 22d, Major-General Coote marched from Marabout to attack a strong corps posted in his front, in order to cover the approach to Alexandria ; the managements of that excellent officer

appear to have been able and judicious, and were attended with the most complete success; he drove the enemy every where, though strongly posted, and in a country which opposed uncommon obstacles to the progress of troops. The French suffered extremely in the action, and retreated in much confusion, leaving their wounded and seven pieces of cannon behind them.

On the 24th, batteries were opened against the redoubt de Bain; and on the 25th, at night, Major-General Coote surprised the enemy's advanced posts, when seven officers and fifty men were taken prisoners: this service was gallantly performed by Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, with the first battalion of the 20th regiment, and a small detachment of dragoons, under the orders of Lieutenant Kelly of the 26th. The enemy endeavoured to regain possession of the ground from which they had been driven, but were repulsed with loss.

On the morning of the 26th we opened four batteries on each side of the town against the intrenched camp of the French, which soon silenced their fire, and induced them to withdraw many of their guns.

On the 27th, in the evening, General Menou sent an aid-dé-camp to request an armistice for three days, in order to give time to prepare a capitulation, which, after some difficulties and delays, was signed on the 2d of September.

I have the honour to enclose you a copy of the capitulation, and also a list of the number of persons for whom the enemy have required shipping; by this it appears, that the total of the garrison of Alexandria consisted of upwards of 8000 soldiers, and 1300 sailors.

This

This arduous and important service has at length been brought to a conclusion. The exertions of individuals have been splendid and meritorious. I regret that the bounds of a dispatch will not allow me to specify the whole, or to mention the name of every person who has distinguished himself in the public service. I have received the greatest support and assistance from the general officers of the army. The conduct of the troops of every description has been exemplary in the highest degree; there has been much to applaud and nothing to reprehend; their order and regularity in the camp have been as conspicuous as their courage in the field. To the Quarter-Master-General, Lieutenant-Colonel Anstruther, I owe much for his unwearied industry and zeal in the public service, and for the aid, advice, and co-operation which he has at all times afforded me. Brigadier-General Lawson, who commanded the artillery, and Captain Bryce the chief engineer, have both great merit in their different departments. The local situation of Egypt presents obstacles of a most serious kind to military operations on an extended scale. The skill and perseverance of those two officers have overcome difficulties which at first appeared almost insurmountable.

Lieutenant-Colonel Lindenthal, who has always acted with the Turks, deserves my utmost acknowledgments; his activity and diligence have been unremitted, and he has introduced amongst them an order and regularity which does him the highest honour.

During the course of the long service on which we have been engaged, Lord Keith has, at all times, given me the most able assistance and counsel. The labour and fatigue of the navy have been continued and excessive; it has not been of one day or of one week, but for months together. In the Bay of Aboukir, on the New Inundation, and on the Nile,

Nile, for one hundred and sixty miles, they have been employed without intermission, and have submitted to many privations with a cheerfulness and patience highly creditable to them, and advantageous to the public service.

Sir Sidney Smith had originally the command of the seamen who landed from the fleet; he continued on shore till after the capture of Rosetta, and returned on board the *Tigre* a short time before the appearance of Admiral Gantheaume's squadron on the coast. He was present in the three actions of the 8th, 13th, and 21st of March, when he displayed that ardour of mind for the service of his country, and that noble intrepidity for which he has been ever so conspicuous. Captain Stevenson, of the *Europa*, succeeded him, and I have every reason to be satisfied with his zeal and conduct. The crews of the gun-boats displayed great gallantry, under his guidance, in the New Inundation; and much approbation is also due to the naval officers who acted under his orders.

Captain Presiand, of the *Regulus*, has had the direction, for many months past, of all Greek ships in our employment, and of those belonging to the Commissariat. He has been active, zealous, and indefatigable, and merits my warmest approbation. 'I must therefore beg leave particularly to recommend this old and meritorious officer to your Lordship's protection.

Allow me to express an humble hope, that the army in Egypt have gratified the warmest wishes and expectations of their country. To them every thing is due, to me nothing. It was my fate to succeed a man, who created such a spirit, and established such a discipline amongst them, that little has been left for me to perform, except to follow his maxims,

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and

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and to endeavour to imitate his conduct. This dispatch will be delivered to your Lordship by Colonel Abercromby, an officer of considerable ability, and worthy of the great name which he bears. He will, one day, I trust, emulate the virtue and talents of his never-sufficiently to be lamented father.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. H. HUTCHINSON, Lieut.-Gen.

To the Right Hon. Lord Hobart.

No. XVIII.

*Letter from the Right Honourable Admiral Lord Keith, to
Evan Nepean, Esq.*

Dated Foudroyant, Bay of Aboukir, Sept. 10, 1801.

SIR,

You will be pleased to acquaint their Lordships, that the Capitan Pacha and I have agreed on the enclosed distribution of the vessels of war found in the enemy's possession in Alexandria, of which I trust their Lordships will approve.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) KEITH.

Capitan Pacha.		Lord Keith.	
<i>Cause</i>	64	<i>L'Egyptienne</i>	50
<i>Justice</i>	46	<i>Regenerée</i>	32
No. 1. Venetian	26	No. 2. Venetian	26

The Turkish corvettes to be given to the Capitan Pacha, but to be previously valued.

No. XIX.

No. XIX.

Letters from the Right Honourable the Lords Hutchinson and Keith, to the Right Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Monday, March 1802.

Mr. Speaker acquainted the House, that the following letter had been received from the Right Honourable Lord Hutchinson, in return to the thanks of this House, signified to him in obedience to their commands of the 18th day of May last.

Malta, 28th Dec. 1801.

SIR,

I have received, with the utmost satisfaction and respect, the unanimous resolution of the House of Commons, thanking the Generals, the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Privates, of the Army in Egypt, who served under the command of the late Sir Ralph Abercromby, for their brilliant, noble, and meritorious conduct in the actions of the 8th, 13th, and 21st of March.

I have not failed to communicate your resolutions to the different parties concerned, and I am to assure you, both in their names and in my own, that nothing can be so grateful to our feelings as the approbation of the House of Commons, and the testimony which they are pleased to bear, that the army in Egypt has sustained the honour of their sovereign, and promoted the glory of their country. We know well that we have received one of the greatest rewards that can be conferred upon British subjects; and we rest in humble hope, that our future conduct may not prove us to be entirely unworthy of such distinction.

I cannot conclude without expressing a sentiment of deep regret, that it has fallen to my lot to answer your resolutions, and not to him who so nobly led the army, and whose conduct, talents, and example, so greatly contributed to the success of those three brilliant days.

Give me leave to return you my sincere thanks for the polite manner in which you have been pleased to communicate the resolutions of the House of Commons.

I have the honour to be,

With great respect, Sir,

Your most obedient very humble Servant,

J. HELY HUTCHINSON, Lieut.-General.

*The Right Hon. the Speaker of the
House of Commons, &c. &c. &c.*

Friday, April 2, 1802.

The Speaker acquainted the House, that he received from the Right Hon. Lord Redesdale the following letter, sent to him from Admiral the Right Hon. Lord Keith, in return to the thanks of this House transmitted to the said Admiral by the said Lord Redesdale (then Sir John Mitford, Speaker of this House,) in obedience to their commands of the 12th day of November last:—

“ His Majesty’s Ship the Foudroyant, Malta, 18th Jan. 1802.

“ SIR,

“ I have been honoured with your letter of the 14th November, inclosing the unanimous resolutions of the House of Commons of the 12th of that month, expressive of their thanks to me, to Rear-Admirals Sir Richard Bickerton and Sir John Borlase Warren, and to the Captains and Officers of the fleet under my command, for our services on the coast of

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Egypt;

Egypt; and also the House's approbation and acknowledgment of the services of the seamen and marines on board the ships and vessels under my command, and under that of Vice Admiral Rainier, which have been communicated by me to Rear Admiral Sir Richard Bickerton, and to such of the Captains, Officers, Seamen and Marines of the fleet, who were employed on the services referred to as are now here: and I request that you will be pleased to assure the honourable House, that this repeated testimony of their approbation is held by us all in distinguished esteem.

" I request, Sir, that you will accept my particular acknowledgments for the flattering expressions of personal regard with which this acceptable testimony of the House's approbation has been accompanied, and that you will believe me to be, with the greatest respect and esteem,

" Sir,

" Your most obedient and

" Most humble servant,

" KEITH."

" *The Right Hon. Sir John Mitford,*

" *Speaker of the House of Commons, &c. &c. &c.*"

June 11.

Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer brought up a message from his Majesty, which was read by Mr. Speaker, as follows :

" *GEORGE R.*

" *His Majesty having taken into his Royal consideration the eminent services performed by Lieutenant-General Lord Hutchinson during the late glorious and successful campaign in Egypt, and being desirous of bestowing upon the said Lord Hutchinson a signal mark of his Royal Favour and Approbation, and for this purpose to give and grant unto the said*
Lieutenant-General Lord Hutchinson

Lieutenant-General Hutchinson, and the two next succeeding heirs male of his body, to whom the title of Baron Hutchinson of Alexandria, and of Knocklofty in the county of Tipperary, shall descend, a net annuity of two thousand pounds; recommends it to his faithful Commons to consider of a proper method of enabling his Majesty to grant the same, and of extending, securing, and settling such annuity upon the said Lieutenant-General Lord Hutchinson, and the two next succeeding heirs, on whom the title of Baron Hutchinson of Alexandria, and of Knocklofty in the county of Tipperary, shall descend, in such manner as shall be thought most effectual for the benefit of the said Lord Hutchinson and his Family.

“ G. R.”

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved, that his Majesty's most gracious message should be referred to a committee of the whole House tomorrow; which was ordered, and the object of his Majesty's message fully completed by the unanimous voice of parliament.

Brief Account of the Administration of Egypt, on the Arrival of the French there in 1798.

THE DUTY IN KIND.

This is paid only in Upper Egypt, and amounts to 365,000 ardebs of grain of all kinds; and it is customary to take one of wheat for one and an half of barley, which makes the duty to amount to 240,000 ardebs, each weighing 260lb. of marc. The price at Cairo being two pataques

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of ninety medins per ardeb, which is equal to about five shillings English money.

DUTY ON INHERITANCE.

Inheritance is stated to be precarious, being the original gift of government: all proprietors, therefore, can only be said to be tenants for the profits; and at their death, the land falls to government; but it is usual for the next inheritor to purchase, by paying a sum fixed by the Pacha, or Governor of Egypt; and this retribution frequently amounts to three years revenue. The Beys and Mamelukes frequently collect this money at the villages, then pay the Pacha some trifling retribution. These products are the property of the Pacha, over and above his salary.

INDIRECT IMPOSITIONS.

These are duties on the markets in the towns and provinces, for exclusive privileges, selling particular merchandize, and the passage duty paid by boats and merchandize on the Nile. The heaviest imposition was the last, of which the Grand Seignior has no receipt. Part of it was given by the Government of Egypt to the Chiefs and Agas; other branches of it were established by the Pacha, but the largest portion is made a branch of revenue, and a means of vexation by the Beys and Mamelukes. This might be stated at 1,500,000 French livres.

OUAGHS, RISGAH, OR RELIGIOUS FOUNDATIONS.

No countries have more religious foundations than those of the Mahomedan religion. These establishments are very numerous in Egypt, under the denomination of Risgah, or places to be maintained by the pious disposal of gifts by will: they are of two distinct kinds, public and private; the first is called Souttanyeh, or founded by the sovereigns; these are appropriated for the support of the sacred towns of Medina and Mecca, as well

well as of mosques, public schools, caravans, hospitals, and many other religious establishments: the second is called ouagfs, which are either in favour of children or slaves, &c. or in support of certain endowments, or pass, after certain uses, to Mecca, or some great Mussulman establishment. One part of these ouagfs is applied to support persons employed in reading lectures on the Koran, repeating public prayers over tombs on Fridays, and on the eves of great solemnities, to strew flowers and palm leaves at certain seasons, to maintain schools, to distribute alms, both in money and produce, to the poor, and principally to the blind. Some of these, however, seem to deviate from this line of piety and religion, by being applied to feed dogs and other animals in the streets of Cairo, and to strew grain on the minarets for the nourishment of doves.

Each ouagf has an inspector, or nazzar, who is one of the family, whose office it is to look after, and receive the revenues, and distribute them according to the design of the endowment. An Effendi is also specially charged with keeping, in a public register, all these rizzahs or endowments.

The property appropriated to these Risgahs pay a particular duty, called the Duty of Protection. The impost is small, because of the frauds employed in it; but otherwise it would be very great, as half the lands of Egypt are appropriated to the Risgahs. The oppression, and frequent injustice of the Mamelukes, have induced the proprietors to settle a portion of lands in this manner, thereby assuring a certainty of the other part to their heirs.

ADMINISTRATION OF LANDS.

The property in Egypt is divided into twenty-four portions, called Qyratts, which are often branched out into particular divisions. A principal

principal Sheick, named Sheick el Veled, or Register, conjointly with the Sheicks of each qyratt, is responsible for the payment of the duties to government, as well as for the rents payable to the proprietors. These Sheicks possess a very considerable power, and are regarded with great terror by the farmers and the peasants, as the latter are not disposed to pay their rents, but on application of severe and forcible measures.

In each village is a Copt, who keeps the registers, and a Scraaf of the same denomination; the first keeps the accounts of all the tenants, and enters the sum due to each proprietor; while the other keeps a register of the general nature, title, and value of the property within his district. The lands being measured in fedans, the import is regularly apportioned.

The impositions in the administration of this duty are very numerous, occasioned by the succession of petty tyrants that are to be found in each district. The receipts of the Grand Seignior are by no means oppressive, as the sum total of the contributions to his treasury, in money and produce, does not reach 250,000l. sterling. But this sum is tripled by the Beys and Mamelukes, in the contributions they enforce and apply to themselves.

It is not possible to collect the exact proportion of imports levied on the lands, but it appears from a very probable calculation, that in the aggregate, each fedan of land pays in the proportion of three-fifths of its produce: to which oppression may be attributed the present low state of agriculture in this country, and the poverty of its inhabitants.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE COPTS.

Since the Turks have been in possession of Egypt, the Copts have filled all places connected with the administration of the public finance. The

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Turks

Turks are generally ignorant, and seldom look to their own affairs. The Beys and Mamelukes, who are always selected from the slaves of the great, cannot even read; they are consequently obliged to leave their interest in the hands of these people. As they are charged with collecting the revenues and rents, they alone are acquainted with the exact details of them in every part of Egypt. Every proprietor of land or rich man has an attendant Copt, whose office it is to gather his revenue, and pay the expence of his household. Interest naturally unites these people; and they are not wanting in giving an air of mystery to their mode of keeping accounts. They submit, however, to humiliation and oppression, which they exercise, in their turn, over those who are subject to them.

Without these Copts the Turks would not be able to collect a revenue, as they alone possess the knowledge, documents, and hereditary habits of life suited to that employment. It is the interest, therefore, of the government, the Mamelukes, and the landed proprietors, that they should be continued to administer the finances of Egypt.

VALUE OF COINS IN EGYPT.

Tariff fixed by the French on Gold Coin.

PARAS OR MEDINS.

Quadruple or doubloon of Spain, sixteen dollars.....	2352
Demi do. or half doubloon, eight do.....	1176
Quart do. or quarter doubloon, four do.....	588
Eighth do. or eighth of do. two do.....	294
Sixteenth do. or gold dollar.....	147
Double louis of France.....	1344
Single louis do.	672

Sequin.

Sequin of Venice	340
Sequin Zermaboub of Cairo	180
Half sequin do.	90
Sequin of Constantinople	200
Sequin of Hungary and Holland	300

Silver Coin.

Six livre piece of France	168
Ecu of five livres do.	142
Ecu of three livres do.	84
Thirty sous piece do.	42
Ecu of Rome	140
Simple ecu of Malta	67
Ecu and quarter of Malta	84
Double ecu of Malta	134
Double and half ecu of Malta	168
Spanish dollar	150
The talary	150
Ecu of Genoa	186
Ecu of Milan	130
There are four kinds of Turkish piastres, the first	100
The second	80
The third	60
The fourth	40
A nominal money of ninety para, called a pa- taque. By this calculation the livre Tournois is worth	28

The

The Weights and Measures used in the Lands and Commerce of Egypt.

There are several measures for cloth at Cairo. The longest is called pyk stambouly, or pic of Constantinople. The second is called pic bela'dy, or pic of the country; they also call this last dera, which signifies cubit. There is a third measure used only for the nilometer, to ascertain the rise of the Nile. This is also called dera.

FRENCH INCHES,

The pic stambouly is..... $25\frac{1}{16}$

The pic bela'dy is..... $21\frac{1}{16}$

The dera or nilometer20

Itinerary distances are measured by the journey or the hours march.

The pace of the caravans has been ascertained to be three quarters of a league per hour.

The laden camels make between three and four coss in the same time.

The agrarian measure, which the natives term a fedan, differs in its surface in different parts. Four of them are well known and ascertained.

The fedan of Cairo is one acre $\frac{1}{16}$ of Paris.

The fedan of the river Nile, one acre $\frac{1}{16}$ of Paris.

The fedan distant from the Nile, two acres $\frac{1}{16}$ of Paris.

The fedan of Damietta, two acres $\frac{1}{16}$ of Paris.

It appears also that the word fedan implies something of a determined revenue to the proprietor; so that, in some instances, the surface of a fedan, in a fertile country, must be less than in one that is not so fertile.

The fedan divides itself into twenty-four parts, called rivett.

There are several different weights employed in commercial transactions which have the same name. A rottle differs from ten oz. to sixteen oz. according to the material in which it is employed. A rottle of soap is more than a rottle of tallow, as seven to six.

2

S N

The

The drachm is the only invariable weight in Egypt. It is $58 \frac{1}{8}$ grains.

	lb.	oz.	grs.	d.
The greater rottle is 168 drachms or	1	0	7	55
The lesser rottle is 144 drachms or	0	14	4	27

Another rottle in use is only ten oz.

The kantar or kentle is a weight which, like the rottle, varies according to the different materials for which it is employed.

A kanter of sugar is	102	rottles of ten oz.
A kanter of coffee and iron	105	do.
A kanter of senora, charcoal and flax	110	do.
A kanter of oil	122 $\frac{1}{2}$	do.
A kanter of cotton.....	124	do.
A kanter of gum arabic.....	150	do.
A kanter of dry dates.....	250	do.
A kantar of tar	275	do.

The measures of capacity vary also in point of size and place.

The ardeb of Cairo is fourteen bushels of France.

An ardeb of wheat weighs, on an average, in Upper and Lower Egypt, 276lb.

The tellis, used in the commerce of Cosseir, is, on a comparison with the ardeb of Cairo, as 16 to 9. Another measure by which the freight is paid from Cosseir to Yambo and Geddeh, is equal to one ardeb and $\frac{44}{100}$ parts of an ardeb.

The price of a pair of oxen, according to their quality, is from sixty to eighty pataques.

Buffaloes do not reach that price. They are kept for their milk and meat, and not worked.

A

A camel sells from thirty to forty pataques. Their daily expence is seven para, and they remain capable of service for about ten years.

A sheep sells for two or three pataques.

A goat for one pataque.

Horses are in such high estimation in Egypt, that they are never worked in agriculture ; but are kept for pleasure and state. The consequence of an Egyptian is measured from the number of his horses. Their price is from forty to sixty pataques.

The valuation of these several animals is according to the prices in Upper Egypt.

THE RIVER NILE.

The Nile in Upper Egypt, between Cairo and Syene, at the first cataract, takes its course between two chains of high mountains, along a valley about three leagues in breadth. The Eastern or Arabian mountains extend across to the Red Sea ; while those to the West are terminated by the Desarts of Ancient Lybia. The river runs nearly in the middle of the valley, from the southern extremity of Egypt to the strait named Gibel Silsisti. In this part of its course, which is about fifteen leagues, but little of its banks are capable of cultivation. A few of its islands, which lie low, and are easily watered, are the only spots which can be rendered productive. From this streight, the natural slope of the valley leads traversely to the right ; and by its sudden meanders, it in many places shapes the bank into a point. The summit of the mountains on the left banks is almost every where accessible by ascents of varying declivity. The valley widens to the west on descending the river,

so that between the hills and cultivated country, is an accumulating sandy desert. The mountains which form the basin of the Nile, are, in many places, cut across in gullies, which lead on one side to the Red Sea, and on the other to the Desert. The ordinary discharge at the Low Nile, is about eight hundred cubic yards in a second of time, and calculated to be about nine times as much at the High Nile.

The produce and consequently the riches of Egypt depend on this river, and the ancients cut large canals branching from it; from these, smaller ones are cut, to distribute the waters. The larger are kept in repair by Government, and the smaller by villages, or the land proprietors in their vicinity. They should all be cleansed three months before the inundation.

Account of the Rise of the Nile, taken at the Megyas or Nilometer in the Isle of Raudah, in the Year 1800.

Year.	Turkish Date.	English.	Cubits.	Height. Feet.
1215 Hejira 1800 Ann. Dom.	Ssafir.....11	July 4	3 10	5 8 4
	.....12	..... 5	3 12	5 10 0
	.....16	..... 9	3 21	6 5 6
	.....27	.....19	5 14	9 3 8
	Raby el..... 7	.....29	7 21	13 1 6
	.....17	August..... 8	12 16	21 1 4
	.....27	.....18	16 5	27 0 2
	Raby el Thany 7	.....28	17 —	28 4 0
	.....17	September 7	17 8	28 10 8
	.....27	.....17	17 20	29 8 8
	Djemad 3	.....22	17 22	29 10 4
	.....13	October 2	18 2	30 1 8
	.....15	..... 4	18 3	30 2 6

CHAPTER XI.

Circumstances relative to Malta from the Time the Egyptian Expedition sailed from thence—Celebration of the New Year and her Majesty's Birth-day—Arrival of Colonel Mac-Neil and Family—Festival of St. Patrick—Arrival of the Minerva Frigate from England—Conduct of the French and English in Malta compared—The Flora Frigate arrives from Egypt with the Remains of Sir Ralph Abercromby—General Orders—The Ceremonials of his Funeral particularly described—Monumental Inscription—Regulations of the Government respecting the public Amusements—Commissioner Cameron arrives—Neapolitan Troops depart—Arrival of Mr. Nesbit and Family—Sir Alexander Ball sails from Malta—Sir John Borlase arrives—Maltese Slaves emancipated—Sir Sidney Smith passes in his Way to England—Major-General Pigot quits Malta—Major-General Fox arrives there—Admiral Lord Keith returns to this Island with a considerable Part of the English Army from Egypt—Intelligence from England of the Preliminary Articles of the Peace—Death of Captain Elphinstone—Representation of the Maltese to the British Ministry, respecting its being evacuated and restored to the Order—Official Papers, &c.

WE now return to give an account of the circumstances which took place in the garrison of Malta, from the time that the expedition under Sir Ralph Abercromby had sailed from it.

JANUARY
1802.
Thursday 1.

The

Jan. 1802.

The hurry, bustle, and agitation that attended the preparations for that important event subsided into the comparative calmness and tranquillity of the ordinary duties of the garrison. We did not, however, omit to give some little activity to the scene, by celebrating the close of the old, as well as the commencement of the new year, at all the regimental messes, in a style suited to the convivial spirit of British hospitality. In these festive moments no becoming mark of loyalty to our Sovereign, and veneration for the British Constitution, was omitted; nor did we fail to follow, with our most ardent wishes, the brave and gallant army which had so lately left us.

Another festival soon followed, in the anniversary of the Queen's birth-day, which received all the honours which it deserves and Malta could bestow.

As it now fell on a Sunday, its celebration was postponed by General Orders to the following day, when it was observed with every mark of loyalty, respect, and duty.

In the morning the British colours were displayed on all the forts, while the royal standard of Great Britain appeared on the palace, and the castle of St. Elmo.

At noon all the troops in the garrison were drawn up on the walls

6

of

of their respective cantonments. On the La Valetta side were the second battalion of the 35th regiment, the second battalion of the 40th regiment, the 48th regiment, and the Maltese battalion; when, a royal salute was fired from the saluting battery, and succeeded by a running fire from the right, and ending on the Valetta side with the left of the 35th. It was then taken up instantly on the Ricasoli side by the first battalion of the 40th regiment, and continued by the detachment of the Maltese at the Palace of St. Angelo, and by the first battalion of the 35th at the Castle of St. Angelo, Vittoriosa, Bormula, and the other forts in succession.

Jan. 1802.

This magnificent feu-de-joye was three times repeated, when a gun was fired from the saluting battery as a signal to the whole garrison, and three heart-felt cheers immediately succeeded. These congratulations were answered by all the ships in the harbour, with a royal salute and the customary cheering.

That the rejoicings of the day might have no alloy, and that every bosom might have cause to exult in the return of it, General Pigot made it the festival of mercy, as well as of loyalty, by ordering all prisoners to be released; and a general remission to all such as were under the sentence of court martials; while prompted by the same spirit and by such an example, the commanding officers of regiments cleared the guard-rooms and black-holes of their respective offenders.

In

Jan. 1802.

In the evening the palace and front of the main-guard, which is opposite to it, were beautifully illuminated, and a splendid ball and supper given by General Pigot to the officers of the garrison and the navy, and every person of distinction in the island.

During this and the succeeding month no circumstance happened which would justify a particular notification; the garrison lived as one great family, and found no variety in their occupation and objects, but such as proceeded from the strangers whom curiosity excited to visit the island.

Among others, we were much gratified by the presence of Colonel and Lady Anne Macneil, and their family. They came from Naples in the *Romulus*, Captain Culverhouse, and, during their stay, which was about two months, they added in an high degree to the happiness of all those who had the honour of their acquaintance. They left Malta some time in May for Gibraltar, where the Argyleshire fencibles, commanded by Colonel Macneil, then lay, and departed with the regret, esteem, and respect of all ranks of people.

MARCH.
Tuesday 17.

This day being the anniversary of St. Patrick, was celebrated with uncommon festivity, in consequence of the happy event which had lately taken place, of the union between Great Britain and Ireland.

The

The new imperial ensign was displayed in the morning from all the towers, forts, and cavaliers in the island; and at ten o'clock, the troops for guard being drawn up in front of the palace, the imperial and royal standard was hoisted; when the troops presented arms, the officers at the same time saluting, and the band playing, God save the King! It was also the signal for a royal salute from the saluting battery, which was answered by the shipping in the harbour.

March 1801.

Major-General Pigot gave a grand dinner on this occasion to the officers of the garrison; and in the evening a splendid ball and supper to every person of distinction in the island.

The front of the palace was finely illuminated, and the grand guard was decorated with a large allegorical transparency, representing the emblems of that strength and concord which it is hoped will for ever unite the happy islands of Great Britain and Ireland to each other.

A sail appeared from the westward, and on its hoisting British colours, the anxiety of the garrison was instantly awakened, as we had received no intelligence from England, or the Army, since the period of its departure for Marmorice Bay. She proved to be the *Minerva* frigate, Captain Cockburn, twenty days from England. She brought dispatches for Major-General Pigot, which were im-

APRIL.
Thursday.

3 O

mediately

April 1801. immediately landed; when she proceeded on her voyage to the coast of Egypt, with further dispatches to Admiral Lord Keith, and General Sir Ralph Abercromby.

When the French were in possession of Malta, it was a scene of tyranny and cruelty, of robbery, murder, and sacrilege. Private habitations were continually violated, and the churches profaned, by pillage. Religion was insulted, reviled, and blasphemed; all the ancient prejudices of the people were opposed and controuled; the blood of the peasants flowed in the defence of their harvests, so that roused by their misery and oppression into a state of despair, they found frequent means of revenging themselves on their invaders.

But when the French were compelled to surrender the Island to the English forces, a new, a different, and happier scene of things appeared. The laws were restored, property was secured, religion was respected, and the Maltese people were left to recover, without interruption, amid the affluence of a British garrison and with a renovated commerce, from the effects of that despoiling spirit which had so long oppressed them.

This attention to restore comfort and happiness to the inhabitants of Malta, appeared in every transaction of the British government, and was addressed to every circumstance of their manners

and customs, of their laws and their religion. As a proof of this April 1801.
 just, honourable, and humane conduct, I shall only state, among
 various regulations which might be mentioned, the General Or- Friday 2.
 ders issued by Major-General Pigot, and dated Head-Quarters, La
 Valetta, April 3, 1801:

“ There will be a salute fired to-morrow, from the cavaliers, between the hours of ten and eleven *a. m.* and another on Sunday morning at four o'clock. These salutes are intended in honour of the religious ceremonies of the Maltese church in the holy week.”

It cannot, therefore, be matter of surprise to any one who reflects on the opposite conduct of the two nations in this island, that a Maltese never saw a Frenchman, but he felt a wish to plunge a dagger in his heart as a demon of mischief; and that whenever he beholds an Englishman, he is ready to bless him, as a guardian angel and protector.

The *Flora* frigate arrived, and anchored off the Quarantine Bay. Thursday 9.
 She brought intelligence of the successes of the British army in Egypt, to the battle of the 21st of March; and at the same time conveyed the remains of its illustrious Commander, who did not survive to enjoy the victories which he had inspired.

The corpse of Sir Ralph Abercromby was landed, and a subal-tern's

April 1801. { tern's guard ordered to be mounted over it. In this situation it re-
 Friday 10. mained according to the regulations of the quarantine till the 23d,
 when it was privately removed to the chapel of the palace; and the
 necessary preparations made for its laying in state, and being ex-
 posed to public view three days previous to its interment. This,
 as indeed every part of the funeral solemnity, was arranged in a
 manner that was equally honourable to the feelings of the general
 officer who ordered it, as it was due to the obsequies of the great
 military character whose remains were to be consecrated by it.

Saturday 18. The General Orders of this day, were, indeed, replete with
 communications, which were calculated in an high degree to in-
 flame the pride of every Briton, and more particularly of every
 British soldier; yet we could not but feel a very poignant regret at
 being compelled to entwine the cypress with the laurel; and that,
 while we exulted at the glory of our fellow soldiers in Egypt, we
 were called upon to lament the death of the distinguished Com-
 mander who taught and inspired them to attain it.

GENERAL ORDERS.

" Head-Quarters, Floriana, April 18, 1801.

" Major-General Pigot has the satisfaction of informing the gar-
 rison, that the British army effected a landing on the coast of Egypt
 on the 8th of last month, in a very gallant manner, though strongly
 opposed by the enemy, who possessed every advantage of situation;
 that

that on the 18th our army advanced, and drove the enemy within the entrenchments which cover the town of Alexandria, and took up a position opposite to them. That early on the morning of the 21st, the enemy attacked the British lines with their whole force, and, after a very severe and well fought action, in which the British forces displayed all the courage and determined resolution for which they have ever distinguished themselves, the French were driven back with immense loss; and the state of the two armies, after the action, afforded a favourable prospect that the total overthrow of the army and the destruction of the schemes of the French government will follow.

April 1801.

“ Major-General Pigot regrets that our loss in killed and wounded was considerable, although very much inferior to that of the enemy.

“ Major-General Pigot is also convinced that every officer and soldier in this garrison will deeply deplore with him the greatest and irreparable loss which the British army in general, and the service in the Mediterranean more particularly could sustain, in the death of his Excellency Sir Ralph Abercromby, who expired on the 28th of the last month, of a wound he received towards the close of the action of the 21st, at the very moment when he saw the efforts of his brave army crowned with victory; and after having

April 1801. ing shared, with the most advanced part of it, all the fatigues and dangers of the battle.

“ During a long life spent in the service of his King and Country, and in many of the most arduous situations, his acknowledged character was that of a brave commander, and an affectionate and real friend to the soldier.

“ His loss will be regretted by all, but by none more than by the troops now in Malta, most of whom have often witnessed his gallantry, and have fought under him. They have also been sensible, on many trying occasions, of his great merit as an officer, and his known worth as a man.”

The General Orders of this day seem to have been framed to try our feelings in every way as British soldiers and British subjects.

Accounts received from England had occasioned no common anxiety among us, for the state of his Majesty's health, which they had represented to be such as to render it improper for him to engage in public business.

This depressing intelligence, with the uncertainty that hung over the Egyptian expedition, produced those clouds in the garrison of
Malta,

Malta, which the orders of the day immediately dispersed, as they also contained the joyful intelligence of his Majesty's recovery. April 1801.

GENERAL ORDERS CONTINUED.

"It is with particular pleasure that Major-General Pigot informs the garrison, that, by a letter this day received from the Honourable Mr. Paget, his Majesty's Minister at Palermo, his Majesty was most happily recovered, and had transacted public business."

GENERAL ORDERS.

"April 28, 1801.

"To-morrow the remains of the late General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B., Commander in Chief of his Majesty's forces in the Mediterranean, will be conveyed from the chapel of the palace, where they now are, and deposited in a vault prepared for them in the bastion of St. John, at St. Elmo. Tuesday 28.

"Major-General Pigot, anxious to pay the last honours to a Commander so much to be lamented, with every possible degree of respect and decorum, directs that the printed orders of procession, which have been sent to each battalion, may be strictly complied with; and in conformity and addition thereto, the following arrangements will take place:

"The

April 1801.

“ The flank companies and two hundred rank and file of the second battalion of the 35th regiment from Vittoriosa, and sixty rank and file of the first battalion of the 40th regiment from Burmola, will march from those places so as to arrive in La Valetta between eleven and twelve o'clock at noon. Their dinners for to-morrow must be cooked this evening, and brought with them; and, on their reaching La Valetta, they will be conducted to the Auberge de Provence to dine and clean themselves.

“ Boats will attend at Ricasoli, at half past eleven o'clock in the morning, to convey an hundred and fifty rank and file of the first battalion of the 40th regiment from thence to La Valetta. These men must dine before they set out.

“ Major Wear will bring over three hundred rank and file of the Maltese corps from Fort Emanuel, in the course of the morning.

“ At one o'clock *p. m.* these detachments and the whole of the garrison of La Valetta and Floriana, off duty, will parade at the following places :

“ The guard of honour, consisting of the flank companies of the 35th, 40th, and 48th regiments, under the command of Colonel MacAllister in line, on the great parade fronting the palace.

“ The

“ The detachment of the first battalion of the 35th regiment in front of the line wall opposite St. Elmo. April 1801.

“ That of the second battalion of the 40th regiment, in front of St. John's church.

“ The Neapolitan troops in the Strada de Mercanti.

“ The detachment of the Maltese corps, in the Strada di St. Cristophoro.

The 48th regiment in the rear of the general hospital.

“ The second battalion of the 40th regiment, in the regimental parade of the 48th.

“ The second battalion of the 35th regiment, near the gate of the new bastion of St. Elmo.

“ The troops being intended to line the streets, the Town-Major, Morrison, will be sent round to point out the ground which they are to occupy, and the distance at which they are to form, where they will remain, resting upon their arms reversed.

“ The commanding officer will order a proportion of captains and

3 P

subalterns

April 1801. subalterns to remain with the regiments and detachments so formed.

“ Major-General Pigot requests that the others may repair to the palace, to join the procession.

“ The subaltern guard of the royal artillery, with the guns and ammunition waggons, which are to lead the procession, will parade at one o'clock *p. m.* in the court of the palace. At two o'clock the great gate will be opened, and they will advance through it in solemn time ; Colonel MacAllister, at the same time, ordering his guard to shoulder arms. The first minute gun will then fire.

“ When the carriage, bearing the body, passes through the gate, Colonel MacAllister will order his guard to present arms, reverse arms, close ranks, wheel backwards by sections on the left, and march ; falling into the line of march between the artillery and the body. On reaching the extremity of the line formed by the other troops, the Colonel will direct the sections of his guard, as they come up, to form, and extend in the same alignment towards the vault, the remainder of the procession passing through them.

“ When the last cannon of the three rounds after the interment shall have been fired, the several regiments and detachments lining the streets will shoulder arms, and repair to their several quarters in such manner as shall have been pointed out to them.

SECRET EXPEDITION, &c.

475

"Colonel MacAllister will afterwards march his detachment to the bastion of St. Gregorio, and there dismiss them. April 1801.

"One captain, besides the officers on guard, must be left in Cottonera.

"All officers' servants, and king's workmen, are to attend on this occasion.

"The Assistant-Commissary-General will this day send crapes for the officers, which must be worn on the left arm."

This day being appointed for the interment of General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. we proceed to give a description of the ceremonial employed on that most solemn, affecting, and memorable occasion. Wednesd. 29.

Parole, ABERCROMBY.

Counter-sign, GRIEF.

ORDER OF PROCESSION:

A Subaltern's Guard of the Royal Artillery with Arms reversed.

Four Six-Pounders drawn by Artillerymen.

Two Ammunition Waggon drawn by Artillerymen.

The Bands of the 35th and 40th Regiments, with their Drums muffled,
Playing a Solemn Dirge.

The Guard,

Consisting of Flank Companies of the Garrison,

Under the Command of Colonel MacAllister, 35th Regiment.

3 P 2

The

April 1801.

The Senior Field Officer with Arms reversed.

The Band of the 48th Regiment.

Lieut.-Col. (now Sir John Swinnerton) Dyer, Aide-de-Camp to the Deceased.

Dr. Pargeret, Garrison Chaplain.

Lt. Col. Gordon, 48th ...	} THE BODY on a Carriage drawn by Artillerymen.	} Lt. Col. Bentham, R. A.	
—— Baylis, 35th			—— Kemmis, 40th.
—— Clay, 40th			—— Brown, 35th.
—— Oswald, 35th			—— Browne, 40th.

Pall Bearers.

Pall Bearers.

Major-General Pigott, Chief Mourner.

Brigadier-General Moncrief,

Major-General Villettes,

Supporters to the Chief Mourner.

A Grey Horse fully caparisoned, and covered with Black.

Servants of the Deceased.

Officers by Corps, youngest of each Corps first.

1. Officers of Maltese Militia.
2. Officers of Maltese Light Infantry Battalion off Duty.
3. Officers of Neapolitan Battalion.
4. Officers of 48th Regiment.
5. Officers of 2d Battalion 40th.
6. Officers of 1st Battalion 40th.
7. Officers of 2d Battalion 35th.
8. Officers of 1st Battalion 35th.
9. Officers of Royal Engineers.
10. Officers of the Royal Artillery.
11. Officers of the Royal Navy.
12. Officers of the Commissaries Staff.
13. Officers of the Medical Staff.
14. Officers of the Garrison Military Staff.
15. Officers of the General Military Staff.
16. Principal Maltese Officers of the Civil Government.

At

At eight o'clock in the morning the colours of the different forts were hoisted half staff high. April 1801.

The streets, through which the procession passed, were lined by the regiments of the garrison.

Minute guns were fired from the Cavaliers of La Valetta.

And, lastly, the ships in the harbour fired from the time the body left the palace until its arrival at the place of interment, which was succeeded by three rounds of eleven cannon.

The procession moved on to the bastion of St. John, in the castle of St. Elmo, where, in a sepulchre, excavated in the solid rock, and between the stations of two large pieces of ordnance, the corpse was deposited. But we hope and trust, that the remains of a man so dear to his country, and whose achievements form so splendid a part of its glory, will be restored to it ; and that when the Island of Malta is given up to a foreign power, they will be brought to a more appropriate sanctuary in the Metropolitan Church of the British empire.

As an additional mark of respect to the late Commander in Chief of the British forces in the Mediterranean and Egypt, the following General Orders were issued, dated Head-quarters, April 30, 1801.

April 1801.

“Major-General Pigot desires that the officers of this garrison may wear a crape round the left arm, as mourning for the late Commander in Chief, until Monday next.”

All the garrison, except officers on duty, attended divine service at the chapel in the palace, when a funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Pargeret, chaplain of the garrison.

A Sermon preached in the Protestant Chapel in La Valetta, in the Isle of Malta, on Sunday succeeding the Funeral of Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. Commander in Chief of his Britannic Majesty's Forces in the Mediterranean, &c. &c. &c. By Dr. Pargeret, Chaplain to the Garrison.

LUKE, Chap. 12. Verse 40.—Be ye therefore ready also, for the Son of Man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

If reason were duly consulted, and the friendly warnings of religion properly regarded ; if the hasty fall of others made a just impression ; if the feeble nature and delicate texture of our bodies were duly considered, no man living could sleep sound for one night with the weight of unrepented guilt upon his mind ; no man could put off repentance and reformation till to-morrow ; no man could lie down with an easy mind, without having made peace with God and his neighbour ; no man could live unprepared for his change, or even venture to trust the next hour with the interests of his

his soul, and the concerns of eternity. But reason's low whispers, and religion's kindly representations, *that all flesh is as grass, and the goodliness thereof like the flowers of the field*, come so often, that they are considered as things of course; we hear of them with indifference, we read of them without any application to ourselves, and soon suffer them to slip out of our memory, without having excited a serious thought. And when the Providence of Heaven enforceth all these things, with the unexpected and hasty removal of our friends and companions; we hear it perhaps with surprise, we relate it with regret, we think of it with a short emotion, but I suspect we seldom put the natural question to ourselves, *Am I prepared for such a summons?* or what is the lesson that I am to learn from such events? But indeed, whether we regard it or not, there is an awful meaning in such scenes, that ought to affect our hearts; and a small still voice that whispers to the reason of survivors, "*Be ye ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh.*"

April 1801.

With respect to the *necessity* of being *always ready*, I need be very brief on this topic, because this congregation has of late received repeated warnings to this effect, and example upon example, of the uncertainty of human life. The unsearchable Providence of God has preached to us upon this text with a particular emphasis, and with a feeling that far exceeds the voice of man, applied the awful instruction to the eye, the ear, and the heart; and in order

April 1801.

order to make it more generally known and convincing, God hath been pleased to remove, by an hasty summons, not one or two, but many universally known to this congregation.

But in order to fulfil the more immediate design of this Discourse, it may first be requisite briefly to contemplate the noble exploits lately performed by the British army in Egypt.

To relate them with the justice they demand, would claim a portion of time that cannot now be allowed me, and a brighter eulogium than I am able to express. Their heroic achievements will glow in the brightest pages of our country's annals, and obscure those of our enemies. Nations yet unborn shall hear their noble exertions related with gratitude, and shall make the arduous labours they now endure, the frequent theme of their praise, and the objects of their emulation. There arises in one's breast, on hearing what severe struggles our fellow-soldiers underwent to attain these honours, an honest pride, that animates the heart to emulate their valour. The earth, where some of those heroes sleep in death, will be considered as sacred by the patriot and the soldier of every succeeding age, while the love of our country, and an ardour for its glory, continue to be the inspiring principle of the human breast.

I do not bespeak your attention ; for well I know how prepared
you

you are to attend, whilst I pay a tribute to the memory of one of those worthies of superior excellence, our late much beloved and lamented Commander in Chief; by endeavouring to draw such a character of him, as I am persuaded he justly merited. His tomb the good and the brave will ever contemplate with the most affectionate regret, and to his memory they will pay the grateful tribute of admiration. April 1801.

He seemed, by nature, formed for military greatness; his memory was retentive, his judgement deep, and his comprehension at once quick and clear: his constitutional courage was not only uniform and daring, but he possessed that higher species of it, that firmness, steadiness, and activity of mind, which no difficulty could obstruct, or dangers deter.

It will be unnecessary to trace him through the varied scenes of his life; we need only contemplate him in his public and private character, towards the close of his days; and in both we shall find every thing to admire and to imitate. A faithful servant to his king and country, he was ever ready to sacrifice, for the public good, every consideration of private convenience and domestic comfort.

At an advanced period in life, he was called upon to quit a situation highly honourable, and which had been the reward of his past services, (I mean the chief military command in his own country,)

3 Q

to

April 1801. to tear himself from the bosom of his family, and to embark on a foreign service, with a very uncertain prospect of success, and attended with all the difficulties and dangers of a military life.

After being exposed for a considerable time to the most painful vicissitudes of hope and disappointment, we had him *here*, within these few months, with all the fire of youth and vigour of manhood, repairing, at the head of his army, to encounter the perils of battle, and all the disasters incident to a pestilential climate.

At last, covered with laurels, and in the midst of victory, he received a wound, which, to the infinite regret of his glorious army, who will never cease to deplore his loss, proved mortal. Thus he fell, closing a life long enough for his honour, but too short for the wishes of his country.

To those who had an opportunity of observing him in the retirement of domestic life, his private virtues will ever be recollected with pleasure and delight : a dutiful son, an affectionate husband, and a most indulgent father, he fulfilled all the social duties with undeviating propriety : constant and distinguishing in his attachments ; manly and unreserved ; yet, gentle, kind, and conciliating in his manners. *The deserving soldier never went unrewarded.* He enjoyed a large share of the friendship, and the universal good-will of all who knew or had heard of him ; and, to crown all, sincerity
and

and candor, a true sense of honor, justice, and public liberty, seemed the inherent principles of his nature, and formed the uniform rule of his conduct. A firm believer in the christian religion, and a constant observer of its precepts, *he was ready to quit life with the happy reflection of having loved the Lord his God with all his heart, and his neighbour as himself:* “ Indeed, he was a man, take him all in all, we shall not often look upon his like again.” April 1801.

And now, my fellow christians, what sentiments has this representation excited in you? who is there *here*, so insensible as not to exclaim, *Let me die the death of the righteous, and may my last end be like his!* Feel the energy of this noble wish, and that happy death *shall be yours.*

Every example of mortality should renew the impressions of *our own.* Whenever we attend the obsequies of the dead, and pay the last honors to a departed friend, it might be useful to accustom ourselves to consider, that the same fate must one day be our own; that soon we must, we know not how soon, be added to the number of those whose probation is past, and whose lot is decided; and that though we cannot ascertain the period of that event, we may ensure the consequences by an uniform life of holiness and virtue, the best, the only preparation for death. The gay unbeliever may drown reflection in intemperance, and, with dissolute levity, may exclaim, *Let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die!* but the sober,

April 1801.


and more considerate christian will commune with his own heart, and thus resolve: "Let me not remove my integrity from me; my righteousness let me hold fast; let me not offend in thought or deed; let every action be just, every intention pure, that nothing may pollute my conscience, for I know *that it is appointed unto all men once to die*. No vice, however pleasing, can be of long duration; no iniquity, however prosperous, can constitute lasting happiness; soon will the present transitory scene disappear, and the pleasures of the world, and the world itself, vanish from my sight: *let me then keep innocence, and take heed to the thing that is right, for that alone can bring me peace at the last*." Such is the calm soliloquy of a good man, whose pulses, as they advance to their last throb, will not be agitated by any apprehension of the final allotment that awaits him.

But further, we should consider death as an event not only certain and inevitable, but as removed at no great, though an uncertain distance. Were human life protracted to the same extent as before the flood, or were millions of years added to its natural term, even then it would be our undoubted wisdom to consider our latter end. But when life is reduced to the narrow compass of three or fourscore years, and when much the greater part of mankind are not permitted to reach one half of that contracted span, it then surely becomes us to consider with seriousness, the short duration of these mortal bodies, which bring into the world with them
the

the principles of decay and dissolution, and are destined by the law of their nature to see corruption. It becomes us to reflect *that our days are as a span long, and our age as nothing; that man cometh up, and flourisheth as a flower in the field, and is as soon cut down and withered.* How fleeting and transitory is life! at the longest period, how short! and at the best, how frail! What is it but *a shadow that departeth; a vapour that appears for a little time, and vanisheth away?* Exposed to the power of a thousand accidents; the arrows of death are perpetually flying around us, and so many, so various, and uncertain are the causes of mortality, that we can neither know the time nor manner of our departure.

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Life and time are so unequally dispensed, and in such different portions, that no man may know the exact measure of his days, nor be certified how long he has to live. Some live long and see good days, and at last, by a gentle and gradual decay, the lamp of life goes slowly out. Others are snatched away in the midst of their years, and their light extinguished when appearing in its brightest lustre. In the midst of life we are in death, *i. e.* subject to its power; but in what shape, what stage of life it will exert its power, is a knowledge we cannot attain. How long we may be permitted to walk before the Lord in the land of the living, or how soon we may descend into the chambers of the grave; whether the violence of external injury may forcibly dissolve the union between
soul


April 1801.  soul and body, or whether an inward disorder of our frame may render it necessary *that it shall return to the earth*; whether we may lie long on the bed of languishment, or whether we shall go down to the grave, as it is said we shall rise again, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye; whether death shall, with a gentle hand, close our eyes without pain or apprehension, or whether he will march with all his terrors in array against us; whether our day shall be long in the land which the Lord our God giveth us, or whether we shall go whence none return, in the prime and vigour of our years; whether the evening of life may be bright, calm, and serene; or our sun may set in clouds; *he alone from whom no secrets are hid can determine.*

If, then, we know not the measure of our days, if we know neither the hour nor manner of our death, nor how soon we may be summoned to depart hence and be no more seen; we ought well to consider how frail and uncertain our condition is, to wait the doubtful hour, to be always *ready, that our Lord, when he cometh, may find us watching.* Good angels guard us in that awful moment! Almighty God support us in our passage through the valley of the shadow of death, and guide us to thy glory!

As for those happy christians who have entered upon a good life, and are engaged in the practice of virtue and religion; who make the glory of God, and the salvation of their own and others souls
 6 their

their great care and concern; they have only to go on in their christian course with courage and resolution; to *hold fast their profession*; and, with an unwearied diligence, to *press toward their mark for the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus*; not doubting but that he that hath begun a good work in them, will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. God is faithful that hath promised, and therefore they may rest assured that he will remember and reward *their work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ*; and that in due season they shall reap, if they faint not. Yet a little while, and he that shall come, will come, and his reward is with him, to give to every man according as his work shall be. To him that overcometh, he will grant to sit with him in his throne; even as he also overcame, and is sat down with his father in his throne. Happy, happy period for those blessed souls, who have fought the good fight, and keep the faith to the last! All their labours will then be at an end, and that crown of life, which God has promised to his faithful servants, will be bestowed upon them, and they shall be admitted to *an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away*.

I shall not address myself to you, my brethren, as the soldiers of your country; for what can I urge you to do in the career of honour, which you have not already done, or are not anxious to perform? Is there any peril which you will not encounter? Is there
any

April 1801.  any hardship that you will not suffer? Is there any conflict in which you will not engage? Nay, are you not prepared at this moment to present yourselves to pain, peril and death? Is it not to you and your naval brethren that we owe, under Heaven, the possession of our constitution, our liberties, and our religion. Is there any spot where you have been called to act, which you have not brightened by your renown?

It is not for me, on this occasion, to pass by your brother soldiers, who have planted laurels on the sands of Egypt, which will continue to grow while fame can make them flourish. They have fought not only in the cause of their Country, but of God; for they contended with an enemy who professed to elevate the Crescent of Mahomet above the Cross of Christ. It was a cause worthy of them, they fought and they conquered.

But I must not dwell on these things, the enemies of your country I shall leave to the vengeance of your sword, whenever you may be called to a conflict with them. It is for me, as a minister of the gospel, to tell you of the enemies of your soul; and to warn you against those irregular desires, evil propensities, disorderly affections, and irritating passions, which are continually at war with your virtues: it is my peculiar office to encourage in you a resistance to the prince of the power of the air, to the enemies of your immortal nature, the world, the flesh and devil. It is for me to engage you in the service of Christ, and to fight under the banners
2 of

of the captain of your salvation ; to excite you to a spiritual combat against your spiritual enemies ; to exhort you to put on the whole armour of God ; to gird your loins with truth, to have on the breast-plate of righteousness, with the shield of faith, and the sword of the spirit. Thus clad in this celestial panoply, you may, with christian heroism, overcome every enemy of your salvation, may at length triumph over death and the grave, and may finally become more than conquerors, through Jesus Christ our Lord!

April 1801.

On a plain black Marble Slab, placed over the Vault where the Remains of General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. are deposited, is the following Inscription :

P.
A. Ω.
Memoriæ
RODOLPHI ABERCROMBI, Scoti,
equitis ordin. a Balneo dicti,
viri
probitate,
mentis magnitudine, animo maximo,
et armis in bello Americano atque Hollandico,
clarissimi ;
quem
Georgius III. Magnæ Britannicæ Rex,
populis plaudentibus,
Britannicæ terrestris exercitus
ad mare Mediterraneum
duce sepremum dixit,
quo munere

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expeditionem Ægyptiacam conficiens,
 oram Ægypti universam,
 Gallorum copiis strenuis undique adversantibus,
 uno impetu occupavit, tenuit,
 idemque progrediens
 earum conatus non semel fugit, compressit
 donicum signis cum Gallo conlatis,
 cruenti prælio ad Alexandriam commisso,
 anno 1801, die xxi m. Martii,
 in prima acie, in ipsa victoriæ sinu,
 lethale vulnus crure excipiens,
 magno suorum desiderio extinctus est
 die xxviii ejusdem mens. anno ætatis suæ

LXVIII.

dux, rei bellicæ peritiâ,
 providentiâ in consulendo,
 fortitudine in exequendo,
 ac fide integrâ in Regni et Regis gloriam
 spectatissimus.

Hunc Rex, hunc Magna Britannia, flevit.

Henricus Pigot,
 præpositus gen. regia potestate,
 præsidia militum,
 in hanc insulam consistentium,
 optimi ducis cineribus eodem
 anno die xxix Aprilis,
 funere publica hunc inlatis,
 bene merenti faciendum curavit
 pietatis causa."

While the garrison of Malta was thus engaged in offering every
 mark

mark of respect to the remains of their beloved and lamented General, the gratitude of the British nation was exercised in paying the just tribute of regard due to his memory. His Majesty was pleased to ennoble his family, while a pension was granted to support the rank of the peerage to which they were elevated; and a monument was at the same time voted by Parliament to be erected in the cathedral church of St. Paul's, to perpetuate his valour and his virtues, his military character and splendid victories.

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The attention of Major-General Pigot to every department of the place and garrison which he commanded, was equally liberal, unoppressive, and unremitting. But while the discipline and the duties of the troops were controuled by his continual vigilance and inspection; he promoted, to the utmost of his power, any means of varying the uniform scene of military occupation by such amusements and variety of indulgence as the place could admit, and circumstances would allow. The theatre, therefore, became a natural object of his attention, as a source of rational entertainment and pleasure; and that its exhibition might be enjoyed in a manner to gratify the garrison and the inhabitants, he was pleased to publish the following regulations in General Orders:

GENERAL ORDERS.

" Head-Quarters, Floriana, May 4, 1801.

" Major-General Pigot, wishing to contribute as much as pos-

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sible

May 1801.

sible to the success of the public theatre, which is calculated at once for the amusement of the garrison, and the inhabitants of Malta; thinks it proper to insert in Public Orders, the regulations and forms with which it will be opened to-morrow, and continue till the expiration of the next carnival.

“ The price of the boxes on the first row to be six dollars per month, exclusive of the entrance, which is to be six terries for each person.

“ The price of the second row in the boxes, to be five dollars, besides the entrance.

“ The price of a box for one night to be three shillings for the first row, half a dollar for the second, and two shillings for the third.

• “ Those subscribers who have boxes, may, if they choose, pay two dollars monthly. For instance, instead of one shilling per night.

“ There will be separate places in the pit for three terries or sixpence.

“ There shall be three pieces performed every week; on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. But should there be more, the subscribers

scribers are to pay no more than the common entrance. Those persons who pay three terries or sixpence entrance for the pit, may become subscribers on paying one dollar per month. May 1801.

“ To prevent any mistakes, such boxes as are taken will be marked, *private*, on the door ; into which, as is usual in all theatres, no person will have a right to enter but the proprietor.

“ A guard will always attend at the theatre to preserve order and regularity.

“ If any person or persons manifest a disposition to act with impropriety or disturb the audience, the Town-major, if in the house, if not, the officer commanding the guard, will desire the parties to desist, and make inquiry into the affair ; and if that desire is not complied with, they will forthwith oblige them, in the name of Major-General Pigot, to quit the theatre, taking their names and address, which they will immediately report to any general officer who may be present ; and if no general officer should be present, they will make such report at guard mounting next morning.”

A very unexpected event now took place, which called forth no common degree of astonishment, and was not unaccompanied with regret. This was no less than the departure of the Neapolitan troops from Malta, of whose garrison they had formed a part.

This

May 1801. This strange circumstance was in consequence of a treaty entered into between his Sicilian Majesty and the French Republic, by which that unhappy Monarch was compelled to withdraw, as it were, from the alliance of the nation to whom he owed his preservation. They did not, however, quit the island without receiving very flattering marks of approbation from the British General who commanded.

GENERAL ORDERS,

Dated Head-Quarters, May 4, 1801.

“ His Sicilian Majesty’s troops, which at present form a part of the garrison, are to embark to-morrow.

“ Major-General Pigot has had more occasion than once to signify, in public orders, his approbation of the conduct of these troops; and he now with satisfaction repeats, that their good order and military discipline, since he has had them under his command, reflect the highest credit on themselves, and the service to which they belong; and he desires that they will accept his thanks and best wishes for their prosperity.

“ Major-General Pigot desires that Colonel Fordilla, and the other officers of these troops, may be assured that he is highly satisfied with their gentleman-like and officer-like conduct, while he has had the honour of commanding them. He would, at all times, have
8 been

been sorry to part with them, and he more particularly has to regret the cause which has produced their present separation."

May 1801.

The embarkation of these troops, however, was deferred another day; and consequently did not take place till the morning of the 6th of May.

Wednesd. 6.

In such a situation as Malta, and under the peculiar circumstances of that garrison, the arrival of a respectable English family, whether it was occasioned by curiosity, accident, or official employment, must have been considered by us as a very cheerful and enlivening circumstance. This observation very naturally waits upon the account of Commissioner Cameron's arrival, with Lady Margaret Cameron and his family; as that Lady, by her affable and elegant behaviour secured the regard, and by the agreeableness of her entertainments greatly contributed to the pleasure of the garrison. Besides, the appearance of a person of her rank and situation will always serve to controul and keep in order the petty animosities of those inferior spirits who, even in the confined society of a garrison, can find the means to provoke bickerings, dissention, and animosity.

Among our political speculations we had rested with no small degree of confidence on the exertions and activity of Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren, who was cruizing off Sicily in search of the fugitive

May 1801. fugitive French Admiral Gantheaume, who had been seen with his ships and convoy in that part of the Mediterranean.

In order to strengthen his force, the English Admiral had dispatched orders for the *Alexander* of 74 guns, then lying in this harbour, and the Maltese ship the *Athenian*, of 64 guns, which was now completely equipped for sea, to join his squadron without delay. The former was commanded by Captain now Sir Alexander Ball, and the latter by Sir Thomas Livingstone, bart.

The regret which was expressed by all ranks of the Maltese on the departure of Sir Alexander Ball; was universal and extreme. That Gentleman had presided in the department of civil justice, and had administered his duties in a manner so satisfactory to all ranks of the inhabitants, that they considered him not only as their friend but as their father.

Thus we remained in a state of the most sanguine expectation that we should see Sir John Borlase Warren make his triumphant entry into the harbour of La Valetta, with some of the French fleet, at least, in his train; and if he had been so fortunate as to have encountered it, there would have been little doubt but that we should have enjoyed such an exulting gratification. Our disappointment, however, was in proportion to the confidence of our hopes,

hopes, when, in the latter end of June, the gallant Admiral, after May 1801.
having in vain scoured the Mediterranean, in search of the enemy,
was under the necessity of putting in here for water, provisions,
and stores. During his stay, however, we had the opportunity of
contemplating a character that united the bravery and skill of his
profession with the polish of superior life, and the warmest feelings
of the heart. At this place an opportunity offered, to gratify
the latter in a very high degree; and I need not add, how ready
he was to embrace it.

He had received an accession to his force of a Turkish ship of
war of 74 guns, and a frigate of 32 guns, of the same nation: and
it had so happened that twenty-six native Maltese, who had been
taken several years before by some Turkish row-gallies, were now
on board the Turkish man of war in a state of slavery. The visits
of their friends and relations, who went along side the ship, to
enjoy a melancholy communication with them, presented many
affecting scenes of grief and despair, which it is unnecessary to
describe, as the evil was so shortly removed: For no sooner did
Sir Alexander Ball make known this circumstance to the British
Admiral, than he demanded the liberty of the unfortunate cap-
tives, which was immediately granted by the Turkish captain.
Thus, in one moment, the chains in which these captives had lan-
guished for many years, were knocked off from their limbs by the

May 1801.

interference of British humanity: and they were restored to their religion, their friends, and their country.

This act of deliverance filled the whole island with gratitude and joy. The landing of these long lost and almost forgotten people was accompanied with crowds of delighted spectators; and two days were suspended from ordinary occupation, to celebrate this event of liberty and mercy.

Having continued here about ten days, Sir John Borlase Warren quitted the island on the important objects of his duty.

No material circumstance had occurred till the arrival of Sir Sidney Smith, Colonel Abercromby, the son of the late General, and the Honourable Colonel Paget, on their passage to England. They only came to the mouth of the harbour, to communicate the fall of Alexandria, and the surrender of the French army; and sailed the following day, to bear the same happy tidings to Minorca, Gibraltar, and Great Britain.

This important event was communicated to the garrison by a discharge of artillery.

Admiral Lord Keith, having completed his duty on the coast of
8 Egypt,

Egypt, where he had performed very eminent services, and, by a most judicious and vigorous employment of the ships and seamen under his command, had greatly contributed to the glory and success of the army in that country, returned in the beginning of October, with a part of his fleet and the victorious troops, to Malta; to resume, as occasion might require, the more appropriate and habitual duties of his distinguished character.

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Soon after his arrival, the departure of Major-General Pigot was announced by himself to the garrison in public orders, which directed all returns to be made in future to Major-General Villettes. At the same time he took a very affectionate leave of the garrison, thanking the whole of them for their orderly and soldier-like conduct while they had been under his command; a circumstance, he was pleased to add, that he should never cease to remember with the greatest satisfaction to the last hour of his life. With his sincere wishes for the health and happiness of every individual, he closed his very impressive address.

The officers of the garrison, sensible of the merits and excellent qualities of the General, and anxious to manifest their sense of them by some public mark of regard, made known their wishes to take a personal leave of him. He appointed the morning of his departure for their reception; and they accordingly assembled in the palace on this respectful occasion.

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General

May 1801.

General Pigot no sooner appeared in the circle, than, in a very elegant and handsome speech, he expressed his thanks for this flattering testimony of their regard and respect; and having, in terms of the warmest approbation, taken his personal leave of the garrison, he retired with those impressions that were honourable to him.

In the afternoon he went on board the *Santa Teresa* frigate, commanded by Captain Campbell, under a salute of fifteen guns; and, in a short time, set sail, with a fine breeze, for Naples; from whence he proposed to proceed over land to England.

Lieutenant-General Fox, who had been for some time expected at Malta, arrived a few days after Major-General Pigot had left it, in his Majesty's ship the *Harlaem*, Captain Buchanan, and landed under a salute of nineteen guns from the ships in the harbour and the saluting battery.

As General Fox was appointed Commander in Chief of his Majesty's forces in the Mediterranean, it was generally presumed that the fall of Egypt would be succeeded by a vigorous campaign under the command of that officer, and that he had actually come to Malta to make his arrangements, and digest his plans for that purpose. Our conjectures, however, were at first suspended, by various reports which reached us from Sicily, Leghorn, and other places,

places, that preliminaries of peace between Great Britain and France had been signed in London: nor did a long time elapse before they were confirmed by immediate intelligence from England; when all opinions relative to the future operations of war were at once determined.

May 1801.

In the month of November the 40th regiment, in which I had the honour to serve, was ordered for Minorca; and a real honour I shall ever consider it, to have held a commission in that regiment, when I reflect on its bravery, its discipline, and the military character of the officers who commanded it. I therefore took my leave of the island, which, according to the best information I could obtain, and the most attentive observations I could make, I have endeavoured to describe.

The treaty of peace has ceded Malta to another power, and it is not for me to doubt the wisdom of that cession; but I cannot, at the same time, pass by the warm and almost superstitious attachment of the Maltese people to the English nation; and with their opinions on such an interesting subject, I shall conclude my Work*.

SIR,

* I must beg leave to renew my subject for a few lines, to mention the death of Capt. Elphinstone, captain of the fleet at Malta. This melancholy intelligence overtook us at
Minorca,

October 21, 1801.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inclose you a translation of a paper, containing the sentiments of the principal Maltese, the Locotenenti and representatives, &c. on the evacuation of this island, and the delivering it up to the Order. Since the arrival of the French cartel, I have had my house full of the most respectable people in the island: they are too much agitated to sit down and draw up a fuller representation to his Majesty's Government. The hasty departure of Sir Alexander Ball does not allow more time than for them briefly to state to you their sentiments, and the desperate resolution they

Minorca, on our return to England, and was received with the unfeigned regret which such a loss may be supposed to produce. For professional knowledge he held a very high rank among naval men; and it must be remembered that he commanded the *Glory* man of war on the ever memorable 1st of June. He was amiable in his manners, honourable in his conduct, and mild in his nature. In short, he united in an eminent degree the qualities of the good man, the accomplished gentleman, and the brave seaman.

He was interred, with military honours, at Malta, which was the scene of his last duties and his last hour.

they have taken, entreating you to lay it before his Majesty's May 1801.
Ministry.

I have the honour to be,

Your most obedient and

Most humble Servant,

(Signed)

WM. ETON.

To Charles Cameron, Esq. His Majesty's

Civil Commissioner, &c. &c. &c.

TRANSLATION.

The Locotenenti of the cities and boroughs, and the representatives of the towns, humbly represent,

The sensation produced at Malta by the news that has been brought by the French cartel, that the island is to be delivered up to the Order, is violent and universal.

The conduct of the captain and his officer who landed, in communicating with those who are notorious partizans of the French, give suspicion that Bonaparte has consented to restore the island to the Order, only with a view to make himself Master of it. The Order has itself but few partizans, who never have had, since their expulsion, any weight with the people, farther than by exciting discontent occasionally on various false allegations.

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The French are generally detested ; and as the Maltese foresee that the putting the Order in possession of the island is tantamount to giving it to the French, they are determined to resist it.

All those who have heretofore opposed, either the Order itself, or the French, look on themselves as certain victims ; and this description composes the great body of the people. In the desperate situation they will be placed in, we must expect to see the most obstinate resistance made by a people, whose bravery and high spirit has been proved ; they began to taste the advantages, and enjoy the happiness of his Majesty's government ; they saw prospects of an extensive commerce ; of this island becoming the emporium of the Mediterranean, and arts, sciences and manufactures flourishing ; they began to feel a consequence in having become a part of a vast empire, and every individual found himself elevated from a state of dejection to a respectable member of society. Whether in future they be under the Order, or the French, they know, importance only will be attached to their island as a port and a military post, and that the people will return to a more abject state than they have been in at any past period. Every merchant of property has determined to quit the country, in the apprehension, that under the Order their commerce will be cramped, as it was before, from motives of policy, not to excite the jealousy of other powers. Under the French, they well know that Marseilles and other ports will have every preference given to them.

The apprehensions of those who took up arms, and fought with the utmost inveteracy against the French and the Order, need not be described. May 1801.

With respect to the ability of the Order to maintain itself in independency, and as a neutral power, they remark,

1st, That the other nations having taken from the Order all its revenues, it must be dependent on France, which will not fail to support its Knights, and who are much more numerous, as France is in possession of three langues. Thus, in the very beginning, without any open attack, France will be mistress of Malta, and whenever it suits her to throw off the mask, she may hoist her tri-coloured flag on their impregnable bulwark.

2dly, The garrison of Malta was formerly composed of Maltese. The Order will not trust them now. It must, therefore, employ foreign troops, which there is no doubt will be such as are in the French interest, let them be of what nation they may. The French having the garrison in their pay, and devoted to their interest, will therefore be masters of the island,

3dly, The Maltese may hope to dispossess the French as they did before, but will not the French lay up timely a store of provisions to hold out a long siege, and a blockade in winter is almost impossible.

sible: Will they not easily disarm the inhabitants, or turn them out of their fortresses, and, in general, take measures to prevent their being again surprized.

4thly, Will the Maltese, after being abandoned and sacrificed by the English, trust on their protection a second time? From being our ardent friends, they will become our most inveterate enemies.

5thly, If it is therefore determined to withdraw the British troops from Malta, they entreat that they may be left to themselves to settle with the Order. They are determined not to submit to any foreign power but Great Britain; and to perish under the ruins of their cities, or maintain their liberty and independence. After having received us as friends and liberators, after having so cordially united with us, they have reason to hope that we will not unite with their enemies in assisting to subdue them, and deliver them over as slaves to other masters. As yet they cannot suspect us of such conduct. They complain heavily of their being sacrificed in the capitulations of the French, and they were by the tyranny and the insults they experienced lately under a military command, so provoked, that they were on the point of rising, when the giving them a civil government perfectly reconciled them: from all this the more enlightened Maltese insist that the anger of the body of the people will so awaken, at being abandoned by us now, that it

will ever be out of our power, on any future occasion, to re-possess May 1801.
ourselves of the island.

6thly, They feel the great political importance of Malta to whoever may hold it. They know that, in the hands of the French, they may at all times re-conquer Egypt, and proceed to India with more experience and force than before.

They know that Russia is at this moment eager to see the Order, or what is equivalent, France, hold Malta, (the intercepted letters prove this;) that Russia, however her projects against Turkey may lie dormant during one reign, will ever be revived; and that whoever has Malta has a sure means of uniting with Russia; and that if France will give up the Turks, she may rely on the co-operation of Russia to oppose the British having any power in the Mediterranean.

They know that Russia, united with France, may exclusively enjoy all the commerce of the Levant; that France may be supplied with naval stores from the Black Sea in all security; that a Russian army may march in a few days from their settlements in the south of the Caspian, to the dominions of Zaman Sha, and put into effect the threats of the late Empress Catharine, to drive us out of India.

In short, as long as they are persuaded that Malta is the key of

3 T 2

India,

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India, and the link that will unite Russia and France, that will shut us out of the Mediterranean, and prevent us for ever from counteracting the influence of France in Italy; that will create a naval power, which may one day appear, and bid us defiance in the Atlantic.

As long as Great Britain possesses Malta, though every surrounding nation be our enemies, she will be mistress of the Mediterranean.

With respect to England, they are not ignorant of the importance of this island as a place of commerce; that this would be the great market for British manufacture, and Italian, Turkish, and Russian products; that in this arsenal every convenience for building, fitting out, or laying up a fleet, is to be found; that this might be the granary of Europe; that corn, to any amount, might be collected here, and stored up, from the Black Sea, from Egypt, and from every port where it were cheap, to supply every country where it may be wanted, and Great Britain itself in time of scarcity.

With respect to the Knights personally, they affirm they cannot be neutral, wanting internal power, and the protection of neighbouring states. The only power that can take up their cause, is the power which has in view to dispossess them.

They have violated their solemn vow at the altar, sealed with
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the sacrament, in delivering up their island, or consenting in betraying their Grand Master, and their own religious and military institutions; they have violated every tie of honour, as religious, as gentlemen, as soldiers. Can such be trusted? A great number entered the regicide service, and went to Egypt. The whole of them, with scarcely any exception, behaved in a manner incompatible with their obligations.

May 1801.

Those only could plead guiltless who were absent from the island: but they behaved in a manner not less reprehensible; not one of them came, as their oath obliged them, to Malta, to help to recover the ancient seat of the Order: the road to honour was open to them; an army of natives were in the field, and there was the powerful co-operation of allies. In fine, there is not one single Knight who is not, according to the statutes of the Order, degraded, and has lost all pretence to be of the body; he is tacitly excluded and *dishonoured*.

The Order therefore does not exist. It is annihilated according to its own statutes.

The few despicable mendicants took refuge in Russia, where they were more safe from danger than in the camp before Valetta, and created, for a piece of bread, a schism in their Order; which was as much a violation of all their obligations, though not so scandalous a

May 1801. prostitution of honour, as was the part the more infamous took in opening their gates to the French. These are our sentiments, until we can have time to make a formal representation, and send a national representation to England. You are entreated to make them known to the King's civil commissioner, and to implore him, by all the attachment we have to his person, to the British Government, to honour, virtue, and religion; by the attachment we have for our wives, our children, our paternal island, by the dignity of man, and by the sacred law of justice; by humanity, generosity, and gratitude for our sincere attachment, that he will be pleased to represent our miserable situation at the foot of his Majesty's throne, praying that it may stand for ever the bulwark, and the asylum of *Liberty, Fidelity, and Religion.*

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

DOWNING-STREET, OCT. 11.

A Dispatch, of which the following is a Copy, has been this Day received by the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Major-General Pigot, commanding His Majesty's Troops in the Island of Malta.

Malta, Sept. 6.

SIR,

CONCEIVING that it may be of the utmost consequence that his Majesty's Ministers should be acquainted, as soon as possible, with the surrender of the important fortress of La Valetta, I have desired Mr. Paget to dispatch a messenger to England, with a copy of my letter to General Sir Ralph Abercromby on the subject, and the articles of capitulation, which are herewith sent you.

We

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

We yesterday took possession of some of the works, and our ships entered the harbour, and I am in hopes the whole will be evacuated by the enemy to-morrow, except the Island of Manuel, where, agreeable to the capitulation, such are to remain as cannot be immediately sent to France for want of ships to take them.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) H. PIGOT, Major-General.

To the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, &c.

Malta, September 5.

SIR,

I HAVE great satisfaction in acquainting you with the surrender of the fortress of La Valetta, with all its dependencies, after sustaining a blockade of two years. The capitulation has been signed this day.

I had every reason to suppose that this most formidable fortress was likely soon to fall, from the circumstance of the two French frigates, *La Justice* and *La Diane*, going out of the harbour a few nights ago; one of which, *La Diane*, by the vigilance of the blockading squadron, was soon captured, and there are still some hopes that the other may have shared the same fate.

Judging of how much consequence it may be that you should have the earliest intimation of this important capture, I have delayed, till another opportunity, sending returns of the stores, &c. found in the place, which could not yet be made up.

During the short time you were here, you must have been sensible of the great exertions which Brigadier-General Graham must have made
with

with the limited force he had, previous to my arrival with a reinforcement: he has ever since continued these exertions; and I consider that the surrender of the place has been accelerated by the decision of his conduct, in preventing any more inhabitants from coming out of the fortress a short time before I came here. He was sent to negotiate the terms of capitulation with General Vaubois, and I am much indebted to him for his assistance in that business.

I am happy to say, that I have experienced every support from Brigadier-General Moncrieff, and the officers of the British and Allied troops, whose conduct in every respect has been most exemplary. The service of the engineer department, under Captain Gordon, has been carried on with great zeal and perseverance.

I think it right to mention to you, that Lieutenant Vivion of the royal artillery, the Assistant Quarter-Master-General, has been of considerable service. He was landed here with his party from the *Strombolo* bomb, at the commencement of the blockade; and for a long time did duty with these few men without any other British or regular troops of any description.

I have great pleasure in acknowledging the constant and ready assistance and co-operation I have received from Captain Ball, of his Majesty's ship the *Alexander*, who has been employed on shore during the greater part of the blockade: his name and services are already well known to his Majesty's Ministers; and I am sure I need not say more than that those he has performed here do credit to his former character.

I herewith transmit you the terms of the capitulation.

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I have derived great assistance from my aid-de-camp Captain Dalrymple, who has for some time been doing duty as assistant adjutant-general:

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) H. PIGOT, Major-General.

To General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. &c.

ARTICLES OF CAPITULATION

Between the General of Division Vaubois, Commander in Chief of the Islands of Malta and Gozo, and Rear-Admiral Villeneuve, commanding the Marine at Malta, on one Part; and Major-General Pigot, commanding the Troops of his Britannic Majesty and his Allies, and Captain Martin, commanding the British Squadron, and that of the Allies, before Malta, on the other Part.

ART. I. The garrison of Malta, its forts and dependencies, will march out, to be embarked and conveyed to Marseilles, on such day and hour as may be appointed, with all the honours of war, viz. drums beating, colours flying, preceded by two 4-pounders, with lighted matches, with their tumbrels; the artillery to serve them, and tumbrels for the infantry.

The officers of the marine, as well civil as military; the sailors, and all persons belonging to that department, will in the same manner be conducted to Toulon.

Ans.—The garrison shall receive the honours of war demanded; but as it is impossible the whole should be immediately embarked, the following arrangements will take place:

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As soon as the capitulation is signed, the forts of Ricasoli and Tignie will be delivered up to the British troops; and the British ships may enter the harbour.

The Porte Nationale shall be occupied by a guard, composed of French and English in equal numbers, until the vessels shall be ready to receive the first embarkation; when the whole garrison shall march out, with the honours of war, to the Marino, where they will lay down their arms. Those who cannot be of the first embarkation, will occupy the island of Fort Manuel, having an armed guard, to prevent any thing that may happen towards the country. The garrison are to be considered as prisoners of war, and are not to serve against his Britannic Majesty, or his Allies, until exchanged; for which their respective officers will give their parole of honour.

All the artillery, ammunition, and public magazines, of whatever description, shall be delivered to officers appointed to receive them; as well as inventories and public papers.

ART. II. The General of Brigade Chauer, commandant of the place and forts; the General of Brigade Dheunezel, commanding the artillery and the engineers; the Officers, non-commissioned officers, and land troops; the officers, soldiers, and crews; and all other persons employed in the marine:—

Citizen Pierre Alphonse Guyn, Commissary-General of commercial affairs for the French Republic in Syria and Palestine, accidentally now at Malta with his family; those holding civil and military employments; the ordonnateurs and commissaries of war and marine; the officers of the

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civil

civil administration, and other members of the constituted authority, shall retain their arms, personal effects, and property of every description.

Ans.—Granted; with the exception of the arms laid down by the soldiers, agreeable to the first article; the non-commissioned officers shall be allowed to retain their swords.

ART. III. All persons having carried arms in the service of the Republic during the siege, of whatever nation, shall be considered as part of the garrison.

Ans.—Granted.

ART. IV. The division will be embarked at the expence of his Britannic Majesty; every officer, soldier, or person in public employment, shall receive rations in proportion to their rank, according to the French regulations.

The officers and members of the civil administration who go to France, shall enjoy the same advantages, they and their families being rated agreeable to that military rank which corresponds to the dignity of their situations.

Ans.—Granted, as far as is conformable to the usage of the British navy, which allows the same ration to every individual, of whatever rank or condition he may be.

ART. V.—The necessary number of carts and boats to transport and
3 embark

embark the personal effects of the generals, their aides-de-camp, the ordonnateurs and commissaries, the chiefs of corps, and officers of Citizen Guyn; of the officers of the civil and military administrations, by land and sea, as well as the papers of the councils and administration of corps; those of the commissaries of war by sea and land; of the paymasters of the division, and the other officers of the civil and military administrations: these effects and papers are not to be subjected to any search, under a guarantee given by the French Generals that they do not contain any public or private property.

Ans.—Granted.

ART. VI. The ships belonging to the Republic, that are fit to go to sea, shall depart at the same time with the division, to go to a port in France, after being furnished with the necessary provisions.

Ans.—Refused.

ART. VII. The sick capable of being moved shall be embarked with their effects, and the surgeons necessary to their being taken care of during the voyage, at the same time with the division, being furnished with provisions, surgical instruments, and medicine chests: those who cannot be moved will be treated as their situation requires.

The General in Chief leaving at Malta a physician and surgeon, who will take care of them, they shall be furnished with quarters gratis if they should be moved from the hospital, and sent to France as soon as their situation admits of it, with every thing that belongs to them, in the same manner as the garrison. The Generals in Chief by land and sea,

sea, in evacuating Malta, entrust them to the generosity and humanity of the English Generals.

Ans.—Granted.

ART. VIII. No individuals, of whatever nation, inhabitants of the island of Malta or otherwise, shall be in any manner molested for their political opinions, or for what they have done, or what has happened during the time that Malta has been in the hands of the French government. This article applies principally, and in its full extent, to those who have taken arms, or held employments, either civil, administrative, or military; they are not to be called to an account, or proceeded against for having done so, nor for what they may have done in the course of their employment.

Ans.—This article is not properly part of a military capitulation; but the inhabitants who wish to remain, or those who shall be permitted to remain, may be assured that they shall be treated with justice and humanity, and shall enjoy the full protection of the laws.

ART. IX. The French in Malta, and the Maltese of every description, who wish to go to France, shall have permission to do so with their property. Those who have moveable or immoveable effects, that cannot be immediately sold, and who intend going to France, shall have six months from the date of this capitulation to sell their property: their property shall be respected: they may act for themselves if they remain, or by regular attorneys if they sail with the division. When their business shall be finished, within the time stipulated, they shall be furnished with passports to go to France, carrying with them on board ship the moveables

ables which they may choose to keep, as well as their capitals in specie, or bills of exchange, as may be most convenient.

Ans.—Granted ; referring to the answer to the last article.

ART. X. As soon as the capitulation shall be signed, the English General shall leave it in the power of the General commanding the French troops, whenever he chooses that they should depart, to send a felucca with the necessary crew, and an officer charged to carry the capitulations to the French government, for which the necessary safe conduct will be given.

Ans.—Granted.

ART. XI. The articles of the capitulation being signed, the gate called Port de Bombes will be delivered to the English General ; it will be occupied by an equal guard of English and French, who will have it in charge not to suffer any of the soldiers of the besieging army, or any of the inhabitants whatever of the island, to enter, until the French troops shall be embarked, and out of sight of the harbour. By degrees, as the embarkation takes place, the English troops will occupy the posts which will give them the command of the place. The English General must be sensible that this precaution is indispensable, that there may be no subject of dispute, and that the capitulation may be religiously observed.

Ans.—Granted ; according to the provisions contained in the answer to the first article : every precaution will be taken that the armed Maltese shall not approach the posts occupied by the French troops.

ART. XII. All alienations, or sales of moveable or immoveable property whatever, by the French Government while in possession of Malta, and all transactions between individuals, shall be held inviolable.

Ans.—Granted ; as far as they shall be just and lawful.

ART. XIII. The agents of the powers, allies to the French, who shall be in Valetta at the reduction of the place, shall not be molested in their persons or property, but shall be guaranteed by this capitulation.

Ans.—Granted.

ART. XIV. Ships of war, or trading vessels, coming from France under the National flag, and presenting themselves at the harbour to enter, shall not be considered as prizes, nor shall their crews be made prisoners, for the first twenty days after the date of the present capitulation, but shall be sent back to France with convoy.

Ans.—Refused.

ART. XV. The General in Chief and the other Generals shall be embarked with their aides-de-camp and the officers attached to them, as well as the Ordonnateurs and their suites respectively, who shall not be separated.

Ans.—Granted.

ART. XVI. The prisoners taken during the siege, including the crews of the ship *Le Guillaume Tell*, and the frigate *La Diane*, shall be restored,
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and treated as the garrison; also the crew of the frigate *La Justice*, if she should be taken on her voyage to any of the ports of the Republic.

Ans.—The crew of *Le Guillaume Tell* are already exchanged, and that of *La Diane* shall be transported to Minorca, to be exchanged forthwith.

ART. XVII. Every person in the service of the Republic shall be exempt from any act of reprisal whatever, or under whatever pretext.

Ans.—Granted.

ART. XVIII. If any doubt shall arise upon the terms of this capitulation, it shall be interpreted in favour of the garrison.

Ans.—Granted, according to justice.

Made and concluded at Malta the 5th day of September 1801.

(L. S.)	(Signed)	VAUBOIS.
(L. S.)		VILLENEUVE.
(L. S.)		H. PICOT, Major-General.
(L. S.)		GEO. MARTIN.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, OCT. 11.

Copy of a Letter from Capt. Geo. Martin, of his Majesty's Ship Northumberland, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated off St. Paul's, the 5th Sept,

SIR,

As my Lord Keith is now at Mahon, and it may be some time before

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OFFICIAL PAPERS.

he has an opportunity of communicating with their Lordships, I have the honour to enclose a copy of my letter to his Lordship, giving an account of the surrender of the French garrison of La Valette; and one of the 29th of August, acquainting him of the capture of *La Diane* French frigate.

I am, Sir, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE MARTIN.

Northumberland, off Malta, 5th Sept.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that the French garrison of La Valette surrendered yesterday to the Allied Forces serving at Malta; and to enclose a copy of the Articles of Capitulation.

I have not yet been able to obtain an account of the ordnance and stores in the garrison; the moment it can be procured, I will transmit it to your Lordship.

I enclose a list of the ships and vessels found in the harbour.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE MARTIN.

The Right Hon. Lord Keith, K. B. Commander in Chief, &c.

A List of Vessels found in the Harbour of La Valette, when the Place capitulated.

L'Atenian Maltese ship of sixty-four guns, in good condition.

Le Dego Maltese ship of sixty-four guns, not in a state to proceed to sea.

La Cattagenoise Maltese frigate, not in a state to proceed to sea.

Two merchant ships, wanting repair.

One

One brig fit for sea.

One xebec and two other small vessels.

Five or six gun-boats not fit for service.

Northumberland, off St. Paul's, 29th August 1801.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that the frigates *La Justice* and *La Diane* sailed from the harbour of La Valette on the night of the 24th, and were immediately pursued by his Majesty's ships off that port; and that the latter, after a chase of some hours, and a running fight with the *Success*, struck to that ship, the *Genercux*, and *Northumberland*. *La Justice*, I am sorry to add, escaped under cover of the night, and has not since been heard of.

La Diane mounts forty-two guns, 18 and 9-pounders, but had only one hundred and fourteen men on board, having left the remainder to assist in the defence of the garrison.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE MARTIN.

The Right Hon. Lord Keith, K. B. Commander in Chief, &c.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, May 18.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer.—"Sir, I rise in consequence of the notice I gave the House on Friday last, to propose to render a tribute of national gratitude to the memory of General Sir Ralph Abercromby. On referring to the Journals of the House, I find that, on an occasion similar

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in many respects to the present one—an occasion which equally operated upon the joy and regret of the House—I mean, Sir, when the account of the death of General Wolfe, and the successes of the British army, were made known to the country, the first proceeding of the House of Commons was to pay a tribute of regret and justice to the memory of the General that the country had lost, before it expressed its gratitude to the army. It is my wish to imitate what was done upon an occasion in which the British army gained a victory, and the country had the misfortune to lose a brave General. On the merits of that great and distinguished man, who has been lost to his country in his command in Egypt, it is unnecessary for me to expatiate. His merits are known to every one who hears me; they are described by his successor in a manner that does honour to the feelings of his heart, and shew that, if British sentiments can be relied upon in enabling him who is actuated by them to render eminent services to his country, General Hutchinson will prove a valuable successor to the great man who preceded him. Of Sir Ralph Abercromby I wish to abstain from saying more than that he closed a long life of honour with a death of glory. The breath of calumny never reached him. He was justly honoured by the officers associated with him, and the soldiers under his command. Within a few minutes before I came to the House, I had the satisfaction of seeing a letter in which justice is done in the warmest terms to the memory of that officer. “He had acquired,” says the writer, “in the highest degree, the confidence of the soldiers, and had gained by his conduct and manners that ascendancy over the officers and army in general which insured a prompt obedience to his commands. All seemed to have resigned their judgements to his; and the only contest was, who should obtain the greatest share of his approbation.” I am inclined to rate Sir Ralph Abercromby among the first military characters that ever adorned the country. His end bore a striking
resemblance

resemblance to that of General Wolfe. I will only add, that his Majesty, with that gracious disposition which he has ever manifested to do honour to those who have served him faithfully, and by their exertions have benefited the country, has directed that the standard which has fallen into our power should adorn the monument to be erected to Sir Ralph Abercromby, to preserve the memory of his services. It is a striking circumstance, that this standard will remain till the latest posterity, at least as long as a fragment of it can be preserved, as a testimony of the bravery of a man who never drew his sword to subvert and destroy, but to save as well as to conquer. I trust that such may ever be the principles which will actuate the justice of the country, and that it will ever be blessed with such men as Sir Ralph Abercromby to carry them into effect. On the achievements of the army lately commanded by General Abercromby, and now by General Hutchinson, it is not my intention to expatiate. Sure I am, that the Journals of this House do not record a single instance in which the heroism, discipline, steadiness, firmness, and glory of the British army have been more displayed. To the striking recital given by that valuable officer, General Hutchinson, I refer the House for the details of the last glorious achievement of the army. The preceding one has been described in terms equally to the honour of the British character, by the officer whose loss we lament: but I am in possession of a letter from a person who was an eye-witness of both those achievements; with the leave of the House, I will state the substance of it. He says, "I saw the actions of the 13th and 21st of March; and I am proud to say, that the landing of the troops on the 13th, when the English attacked, and the battle of the 21st, when the French attacked, will establish a character for undoubted firmness and unshaken resolution which will never be obliterated, and will make every Englishman proud of his country as long as it shall endure. The conquerors of Italy fled before our
army,

army, and their standard remained the prize of the victors : Englishmen will weep when they shall behold it ; it is a prize that has cost us dear. To obtain it, we have lost our brave General." Without indulging in any unreasonable exultation over the enemy, which, at all times, is unmanly, we may surely, Sir, feel an honest and becoming English pride at an event so glorious to the country. There is not a man who must not feel that every exertion of the army adds to our domestic strength and security. Let us, however, always call to mind ; let us never cease to repeat, that the great object of every military exertion is the attainment of an honourable and permanent peace ; and let it be understood to be the solid purpose of Government and of Parliament, as it ought to be of the People, not to let any victory however gratifying, induce us to demand more of the enemy than is necessary for our own safety and security ; and on the other hand, not to suffer that any degree of disaster should induce us to accept of less. If such was ever to be the case, we should miserably under-rate the faculties, energies, and powers of the country ; we should render unprofitable those victories which are its glory ; we should vilify and degrade the resources of the country, the best of which are to be found in the unconquered and unconquerable mind that the people possess in so eminent a degree, and which, when wisely tempered, is the source of all that is good and great—the guardian of private honour, the pledge of public worth, and the best preservative of the glory, prosperity, and happiness of the country. I wish to have it understood, that the sentiments of admiration I express are applied to the whole of the army and navy. I shall forbear to specify all who merit particular mention. The motion I shall have the honour to submit, will refer specifically only to those officers who, from their rank and services in the army and navy, have peculiarly the right to be so distinguished ; but I desire it to be understood, that I consider all concerned without exception as equally entitled

titled to the applause, admiration, and gratitude of the country. I move, Sir,

“ That an humble address be presented to his Majesty, most humbly to desire his Majesty, that he will be graciously pleased to give directions, that a monument be erected in the cathedral church of St. Paul’s, London, to the memory of the ever-lamented late Commander in Chief of his Majesty’s land forces, on an expedition against the French on the coast of Egypt, Lieutenant-General the Right Honourable Sir Ralph Abercromby, Knight of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath ; who having surmounted, by consummate ability and valour, the obstacles opposed to his landing, by local difficulties, and a powerful and well-prepared enemy, and having successfully established and maintained the successive positions necessary for conducting his further operations, resisted, with signal advantage, a desperate attack of chosen and veteran troops on the 21st day of March 1801, when he received, early in the engagement, a mortal wound, but remained in the field, guiding by his direction, and animating by his presence, the brave troops under his command, till they had achieved the brilliant and important victory obtained on that memorable day ; and to assure his Majesty, that this House will make good the expence of erecting the said monument.”

Sir James Murray Pulteney.—“ I cannot allow the present motion to pass with a silent vote on my part ; but, at the same time, it would be imprudent in me to say much, after the speech just delivered, the effect of which is visible on every countenance. I, Sir, had the advantage and the honour of serving under the brave man who was the subject of the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer—no one felt that speech more than myself, or concurred more cordially in the sentiments it expressed. I am
2 convinced,

convinced, with regard to that great man, Sir Ralph Abercromby, that those who knew him best, will lament him most. For similar reasons I shall say but little on the other part of the subject. It must be a matter of high gratification to every military man to say, that in an open field the best soldiers of France were not only defeated, but under circumstances of peculiar disadvantage on the part of the victors. The history of military enterprize affords few instances of more honour, courage, and discipline, than the last. A landing was effected on an hostile coast, under the immediate fire of the enemy, long prepared for the event, amply provided with cavalry and artillery, when we were unprovided with those advantages. I should only observe, that our troops were on every occasion broke in upon by, and mixed with, the French cavalry. When such a circumstance had before taken place, it has uniformly been looked upon as the prelude to defeat. I wish it was in my power to do justice to the memory of the General we have lost. I hope the excellent officer who has succeeded him will retain the command of the army in Egypt. To its exertions, under so able a commander, the country may look forward with confidence."

Wednesday, May 20.

Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer acquainted the House, that he had a message from his Majesty; and he presented the same to the House; and it was read by Mr. Speaker, as follows, viz.

"GEORGE R.

"His Majesty having taken into his Royal consideration the eminent and signal merits of the late Right Honourable General Sir Ralph Abercromby, Knight of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, during a long life spent in the service of his country, and terminated by a glorious death,
has

has thought proper, in testimony of regard to the memory of that distinguished officer, to confer on his Relict, Lady Abercromby, the dignity of a Barony of Great Britain, by the title of Baroness Abercromby of Aboukir, with remainder to the heirs-male of the body of the said Sir Ralph Abercromby : and being further desirous of granting to Lady Abercromby and the two next succeeding heirs-male of the body of Sir Ralph Abercromby, to whom the title of Baron Abercromby shall descend, a net annuity of two thousand pounds per annum ; recommends it to his faithful Commons to consider of a proper method of enabling his Majesty to grant such annuity, and of extending, securing, and settling the same in such manner as shall be thought most effectual for the benefit of the Family of the said Sir Ralph Abercromby.

“ G. R.”

Thursday, May 21.

On the motion of *Mr. Addington*, the House resolved into a committee to consider of his Majesty's message relative to an annuity of 2000*l.* on the Baroness Abercromby, and the two next heirs-male in succession of the late General Sir Ralph Abercromby, who shall inherit the title.

The message being read,

Mr. Addington rose and said, “ I am convinced, Sir, I should do an injustice were I to preface my motion with any comment. I shall, therefore, simply move, That the annual sum of 2000*l.* be granted out of the consolidated fund to his Majesty, for the purposes mentioned in his Majesty's gracious message. I also propose, Sir, to fill up the blank for the date of its commencement, with the words, ‘ 21st of March 1801,’ being satisfied that it will be the wish of every one that it should take place

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from the day on which the country was deprived of the services of that gallant officer."

Mr. Addington then proposed two resolutions to that effect, which were agreed to *nem. con.* and the report ordered to be received to-morrow.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Wednesday, May 20.

Lord Hobart presented a message from his Majesty ; which being read from the woolsack, was to the following effect :—" That his Majesty acquainted the House of Peers, that having taken into consideration the eminent and signal merits of the late Right Honourable General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. during a long life spent in the service of his country, and terminated by a glorious death, he thought proper, in testimony of his regard for the memory of that distinguished Officer, to confer on his relict Lady the dignity of a Barony of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, by the name, style, and title of Baroness Abercromby of Aboukir, to descend to the heirs-male of the said Sir Ralph Abercromby ; and that his Majesty had been further pleased to grant an annuity of 2000*l.* during the life of the said Baroness Abercromby, and the life of the two next male heirs to the said title and dignity," &c.

Ordered to be taken into consideration on Friday.

Friday,

Friday, May 22.

Lord Hobart moved the order of the day for taking into consideration his Majesty's message respecting Lady Abercromby.

The royal message being read,

Lord Hobart expressed his reliance, that, after what the House already knew of the meritorious services of the army in Egypt, and the laurels reaped there by the British arms, under the auspices and gallant exertions of the brave and justly-lamented General Abercromby, they would most cheerfully concur in the purposes so graciously expressed by his Majesty, of conferring the justly-merited honours due to that heroic Officer upon his Widow and his posterity, and of making that provision for those objects of their tenderest affection, who, by his honourable death, were bereft of his protection and support. He concluded by moving an address to his Majesty, re-echoing the message, and expressing the cordial concurrence of the House with his Majesty's gracious wishes.

Lord Moira rose with the sincerest cordiality to second the motion of the Noble Secretary, and to join his own hearty concurrence in giving every testimony of public gratitude to the memory of an Officer, who, with the signal talents and gallantry of his military character, felt less than any man he ever knew of self-consideration in his public conduct, [Never, he was convinced, was there a man who devoted himself to the public service with less feeling for private concerns—never was there a life sacrificed in the cause of a country under more noble sentiments of generous disinterestedness. He must applaud the policy of signalling

the same, and strewing honours upon the tomb of an Officer who had thus gloriously fallen in the cause of his country, because he thought it fraught with dignity and advantage to the public service ; and, if the tribute of praise from so humble an individual as himself could be thought worthy of acceptance, he would not hesitate to bestow it on those Ministers who had counselled his majesty to a measure so praise-worthy.

The address passed *nem. diss.*

THE END.

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